Rev. Sept 15th 1857

Dear Doctor

I have looked over the proof at the earliest possible moment & find but few errors that your eye has not already detected — I have cut out Zizyphus Xylocarpa as Dr Torrey does not fancy the name — I think he will publish it as Z. Parryi — I alter Creosote into Creasote which is the apothecarial way —
The notes were written out too hurriedly & I now see where they might be altered to advantage, but I suppose it is too late. I see that you have doctored some crooked places, for which he thanked — I enclose some labels. You dont say how many you want — there are a plenty more — I should

like to arrange with the printer for a number of extra copies of the paper — Can you see about it? — Not a word from Dr Torrey since I was there 3 or 4 weeks ago — How soon will that assay office be complete? — Never mind about the coat as long as I have that umbrella in pledge — I am just getting ~~for~~ over my hurry having been at work, during from 7 a m till 12 P.M. upon the Art Exhibition —

Very truly

George Thurber

New York Nov 18th 1852

My dear Doctor

Were it not that Doct. Torrey occasionally says that he "has a letter from Doct Gray" I should have no evidence of the existence of that gentleman — Was he forgotten Thursday and his Plantae novae? — How long before the world will be enlightened by the appearance of the memoir? — I am now quite broken into the routine of the assay office & have no reason to complain of either the tyranny of my chief or the portion of the duties which falls to my share.

I suppose that Doct Torrey mentioned that Gray the surveyor collected a bundle of snipes on his journey to explore the "moonshine Rail Road" route — Such specimens! you would think those by Parry perfect monsters after seeing these. A considerable proportion of his collection is exceedingly valuable, being composed of apricots, quinces, fig, lucerne & other cultivated monstrosities — We seem at

last to have the flowers of my nondescript
Leguminosa (846) - Doct. L. says that you propose
to call it Oheya if agreable to me - I cer-
tainly should be glad to have Col Oheyer
genera-lized from my collection & if you
think he would be pleased with the genus
I hope you will let his name attach -
He has however always expressed a wish
to be done into a Cyp - but I suppose he
would have to wait until he was nearly 40
before one would turn up - Lesota. the specific
name you propose is applied to several hard
woods, it is from the Spanish Leso: hard,
tough - Hard Oheyi! Tough Oheyi!! - He may
hardly be willing to be classed with Joe Bag-
stock yet - I send you a few flowers,
which are all the stock will afford,
for your herb - I enclose several little
bits for your decision - An Hosackia which
I cannot make out - a fragment of
Streptanthus (apparently yellow, from the
or your Nts. New here - ~~this~~ This by the way is
my whole stock & a fair sample of the collection
A single specimen of a Dithyrea occurs without
any foliage - it has smaller flowers, shorter
pedicels & perfectly smooth fruit to distinguish
it from D. wislizenii - but I suppose you will
consider it a variety of that species -
Am I right in putting down the Zygophy. as
Fagonia Californica. Bentha Benistone Bot - ?

Gray wishes a catalogue of the plants for
his forthcoming book which is to be published
on private account & wishes 3 or 4 plates -
the new parasite will make one & I have
not concluded upon the other - do you think
the medium dignified enough to picture
the Oheya? - Please ascertain if Sprague can
make 3 or 4 drawings right away -
How come on the Berlandier plants. will there
be any chance for pickings among the odds &
ends? - But I have already made more
? than will be looked upon with! - by answering
these botanical you will much oblige
Very truly
George Thurber

P.S. I believe you have all my specimens for
the fruit of the Oheya - save me out one
or two good ones for my herb -

New York Aug 7th 1855

Dear Doctor Gray

I find that the only letter paper at hand is a few sheets ornamented as above - You are not to imagine that I am an inmate of the very sumptuous looking edifice there represented.

After the usual amount of sending from one deputy to another & great fuss among small officials I had to call in Dr Torrey's aid & he took the bull by the horns & went to Redfield Esq at once who let the things pass without the oath required by the others - I send the parcel minus one copy for the Doctor. I avail myself of the opportunity to send a few ?s - I had laid aside the collection of A.B. Gray when I found that there was doubt about his printing. He now tells me that his report is to be printed by Congress & he wishes the enumeration of his beautiful specimens -

I believe that I have dry them all out save the few I send you. The Pentstemon (which you say is new) I have good specimens of collected by myself & propose to call Californicum if the name is not taken up & you cannot suggest a better – I wish the seeds of it would come in, as I think it the most elegant of any I have seen. It is a little strange that it has not been brought to notice by Nuttall as it grows where he has collected –

The Acanth. occurs in the collection & is = my 352. from the same region (Rio Yaqui) It is not named in Wrt. Tor & I cannot make it out. The spec. sent is from my collection & may be returned – (Keep the Pentstemon)

The little Asclepias is from Cooks Road & you probably have the same from the Copper Mines. Is it described? The Castilleja & Salvia complete the list. If you can readily give them names please do so. otherwise dont waste valuable time on them –

Slip them into your carpet bag when you come on to Providence to attend what the Torrey girls irreverently call the "Mudfog"

The parcel goes by Adams Express today – Doct L. has taken 2 dominoes –

James Hyz is in the office, sends his regards & says he saw Lieut Carey Esq yesterday –

Rustefully & truly

Horace Thurber

Augt. 13th – Dear Doctor – Thurber has handed me this sheet to fill up – Your note of the 10th is received – Did I not acknowledge the one of the 9th on Saturday?

Mr Torrey, Elza & Mary expect to go with me to Providence – to arrive there on Wednesday morning from Stonington. Do bring Jane with you. We will all be so glad to see her – The proof of Beckinth ought to have reached you ere this.

Poor Negro – I don't know what he will do – I am ~~[illegible]~~ overwhelmed with Dutchmen wanting plays – Chemists, in great numbers are coming over – all of whom expect to jump at once into lucrative employment – or, at least, into a professorship.

Look to Jane – Ever yours

S. Torrey.

New York May 11th 55

Dear Doct. Gray

Your letter calling me a goose seems to demand an answer. I did not know that your love of approbation was so enormous as to cause you to write two or three times inquiring how I liked your operation of xylotomy. I can assure you that I feel duly flattered at being considered so much of a Jack Bunsby & as you seem to think I can "give an opinion as is an opinion" I shew my appreciation thereof by inclosing a postage stamp & other stationery in letting you know in a special communication what I forgot to add in my last.

As you have placed me in the position of a critic & as that class of people never give away

ning their unqualified approbation I must of course find some fault. It seems to me that the game was not worth the ammunition expended, & that there were some half dozen hits either one of which would have been sufficient to demolish. Though his edition is published without plates he can't now complain of lack of Wood cuts - I think you have shown (to make an awful pun) that the lifer of that Wood is a Sell-ular tissue

To be serious I was well pleased at the showing up & Doct T. & myself had a good time over the reading.

I don't know where Doct T. will stop in Providence, I shall get him on Tuesday & will arrange for him. Mrs. T. & one of the Misses will go too - Though I am upon the local (?) Committee I have as yet heard nothing of the arrangements. But I have no doubt that the usual hospitality will be extended to the members. Your best way will be to come to the reception room at the college at once, &, being on the committee of reception, I will see you cared for. If I know what train you will come in either Olney or myself will meet you at the Depot.

Ever Yours

George Thurber

New York Nov 19/86,

Dear Prof. Gray.

I hope that Wright has at last succeeded in getting off – I returned his money by last Monday's Mail & trust he duly received it.

Some time ago Dr Torrey gave me a number of specimens of Bryonieae which were collected for your "Bup. Work". I have never seen a copy of this often quoted work. Dr. Torrey does not possess one & I write to inquire where I can borrow one. I am at work trying to straighten out the accumulated hay of several years & your Bryon. & Cyp. would be of essential aid, as I have but few really authentic specimens.

I am very much pleased with the manual, & if I have not thanked you before I do so now. Why is it not advertised? I have had several inquiries made of me ~~for~~ asking when it was coming out, ~~after~~ it had been published a couple of months. Why dont they know? –

Apropos of the manual, what do you mean by saying of Silpha Virginica, "leaves compound"? And how could you be so mistaken as to say (under deportia) that Pluminia "might perhaps be ~~confused~~ with Arctophila in <u>spite of its teeth</u>"! Some people would pun in writing an epitaph –

I suppose, judging from precedent that I may look for a reply in October 1857 – I have almost forgotten about the Phlox. I ~~sent~~ by that letter – I think it is one which was mixed up with specimens of P. carolinus from Harrisburg. It is either new or a very queer form of that sp.

Yours truly

George Thurber

New York Feby 21st 1857.

Dear Dr. Gray

Holton sent me your letter of the 14th with the request that I would answer it. His paper is to be sent to Middlebury Vt. via Rutland R.R. from Troy.

As to the text - as mine is the largest lot you may send it to my address No 47 White St. & I will see that it is duly distributed.

As you took some hints for corrections of future editions of the Manual very good naturally & add a few more that have caught my eye -

Potentilla frigida. Range not given.

Viburnum prunifolium leaves "less

deeply lobed stem No. 8" evidently meaning no 7.

What have you done with Hypsbrichia - is it a form of Anchusania? - Is not Polyphrenum within the limits? —

I wish wherever you have spare duplicates of Grapes - foreign or native you would remember me & put some aside.

Very truly

George Thurber

New York June 24th 1857.

Dear Doctor

Dr. Torrey says
that you inquire why those
who had the paper do not
pay up. Those who had 2
Reams Each have done so
& I was awaiting your orders
regarding the money, having
overlooked that you expected to
be informed when I had it
in hand. Doct. Torrey has
not paid me for his paper
as he said you were indebted
to him for some matters &
he would write you about it.
— I have $15.56 subject to your
order & will arrange to pay for
more at the time agreed.

When I was in C— you
wished to know if I would
undertake to make up your

duplicates into parcels. I believe I said that I would think of the matter – How long do you think it would take of close labor? I have not made my arrangements for a summer vacation yet.

Chapman has been burnt out, saved his plants but lost his Mfg.

Very Truly

George Thurber

New York Sept 2d 57

Dear Dost Gray –

I fear that you will think that your "man of business" is not very prompt. I have had the money for all the best paper except Dr Torrey's put aside for you a month or more & have been hoping to get a settlement with the Dr. – He has not touched the bottom line of the cook of the Whipple documents yet. Shall I not send you on the money? The weather of Dr Torrey's

can be settled afterwards

Dear Hunter

Yours ever

George Thurlow

New York Oct 8th/57.

Dear Doct. Riley

You "want money" singular! – I come to tell it for it – not singular but very natural. After keeping your funds for a long time & finding that R. Torrey could not find out the state of his a/c for a month perhaps yet. I, having a need for money used what I expected a day or two before your letter came – Serves me right. I ought not to have done it – I send you all the money I have – $35 – and if you want the other eight off say so & I will make a raise if not, let it come round in the course of Nature & Uncle Sam – Moral – Don't use other peoples cash –

My acct with you - aside from Dr Torrey's bill according to my mem. as follows —

Dr Gray Cr —

Buy Paper self —	39.60.
4 Reams Cotheal &c.	10.56.
2 " Leroy —	5.00
From Torr. for Geinoeus	.40
	$55.56

Dr.

Charges on Boy by Bowman	.90
" " " Hammond	.70
Postage on Proofs —	42
Expenses for Wright —	8.25
	10.27

Balance due Dr Gray — $45.29

Doct. Torrey says that he cannot take the Algae for the reason that he too "wants money" —

Do you get any new lots of American grapes? — I shall have a good set of named ones for you bye & bye — I get on slowly for want of books — You gave me a "Roelerian Oregonian" list — is it published? I believe probably only R. cristatus —

Do you know of a set of Kin's Scones anywhere acceptable? —

Ever truly

George Thurber

says he has lost heaps by the
panic — Young Bennett of Bow-
mants Dickensian's Syn. of Dickens.
If you have a copy to spare please
send it to him. You have his ad-
dress for he had a set of Proofs of
you — He will do to cultivate for
he has no nonsense about him.
a good fellow. if he does take to
toad stools & such —

Ever very truly
George Sherlock

New York Nov 13/57.

Dear Dr St Gray —

Your "business man"
seems a little slow doesn't
he? — did you think that
Hannover 'nabed him? I
took you up mainly on Dr S's
"nipsy dipsy" — & I find that
commentators differ — Old Court
Gourowski says. 2 Ns, & I therefore
forgive you. I was all out
about the Borussian — a German
friend told me that she was con-
demned on acct of her accident
& as he usually keeps the run
of such things & as she was not
advertised in the Journal of Com-
merce, the usual medium, I
supposed she would not suit

but the next. & the next
Channel for Hamburgh is by
the Harmonie on the 1st.
& I shall take especial pains
to ship anything by her &
try to make amends —
Dr. Torrey had not sent the
Pl. ship. yesterday, & I saw
him but a minute today. They
are all ready to lay out, but
I cannot press him. You must
see that I hold a different re-
lation to him from that of mere
friend & botanical associate. I
am likewise a Grad. & I must
not do anything which will
conflict with the latter character.
I have asked & reminded as
well as I could & I can do no
more — I wish he would not
let common, "one horse" (calif.)
people take up so much of
his time. the good natured man —
I have attended to the dignity
of Prof. Nat. Hist & Pharm. in
the N. J. Col. Pharmacy. a
splendid berth! — Have a class
of about 12 into which I cram
the Doctors stuff 3 times a week.
— I have begun with a course
of sprouts — or to drop metaphor
a course of structural botany
which is rule night through —
I intended to follow the course
of your lessons, but on my faith
I believe I gave them pretty much
the lessons themselves — When a thing
is well done what is the use of
spoiling it — There is more botany
in that little book than in any
other that I know of — I asked
at Ivison & B's for the new Text
book & was told to "call in the
spring" — If it isn't done I
wish you would write up your
notions on species & classification
more fully than the last has it.
Olney was here last week. he

New York July 2d 1858.

Dear Dear Mary -

Yours concerning the boys for Bremerhaven came late today & I went at once to the Office of the Steamship Co - and, for a wonder, was treated decently - They say that the Bremen Agent had already written them about it as it was on the ships manifest & they have heard that it went ashore by mistake at Southampton - The North Star will be here on her return trip about the 12th & we shall then be able to learn precisely about it - The agent thinks that it must be at Bremen before this - & I think we had better let it be there - I saw it put on board myself & have the bill of lading, so we have got them safe - Second ships are advertised for Hamburgh - & will sail out days of sailing soon - Westermann says that they will undertake to forward anything to Sweden - You may come to Paris 6 days before there is a chance to send direct -

I wrote you a business note about the Appins at Putnams — 30 of 50 copies of Mosses to be sold — I have this of $45 — shall I send it to you or to Sullivant? —
The 20 copies are at my rooms — mains one for the subscriber — as it is on very nice paper & as Sullivant is rich & as it will moreover relieve him of 1/20th of this trouble I will take one — Of the others — Radcliffe no better sort if he does not wish them left on sale at Bailliere's or some other place before sending them on? —
The flora stuff in 5 large cases is at the top of the astry office — I have overhauled the boxes & counted the stuff to day at Putnams requests preparatory to getting at — if possible some statement of the account — which he does not seem to have kept very closely —
I could not get to his place in time this afternoon — tomorrow is lecture day with me & it will have to go over till Thursday when I will try to get at the bottom somehow or another —

My lecture business has knocked my botany askew but I occasionally take an evening at grasses — Eragrostis are rather tough — as far as specimens in Herb. Torrey goes — your reference of Poa tenuis Ell & P. trichodes Nutt. to same species is wrong — the frequent of Putnam's marked from Ell — in Herb Torr is E. capillaris nees —

Ever truly yours

George Thurber

New York Feby. 15th 1858 -

Dear Doctor Gray

Since I wrote you last I have been housed several days which together with the confusion of things & the loose way of doing business at Putnams has prolonged the business from day to day - However - I have at last the matter in some shape or another - whether an acceptable one to you I dont know. but I should have done the same had the matter been my own - If all Putnams transactions are carried on after the style of that of the Flora it is no wonder that he fails. There seems to have been no proper acct kept - The cost of printing nipping signatures was not charged to you & the bill had to be dug up out of old files.

His books then that he reported stock on hand June 1855 - 64 Vol 1. folded wanting 4 signatures

1 237 Vol 2 Sig 1-63 -

125 part 1-6 -

31 part 7

196 part 3 Sig 46-67

98 part 4 Sig 68 end of vol 1.

From the 64 ~~copies~~ vol 1 - after the printing of the nipping signatures there were somehow made 87 copies

of Vol 1. complete. As the recent & last two items are returned undisturbed, there remained to account for

87 Vol 1 complete
125 parts 1-6
31 — — 7 — of these were

returned 68 of Vol 1 (29 cloth - 39 folded) leaving 19 sold
44 parts 1-6 — — 71 sold
0 — — 7 — — 31 "

All amounting according to his figuring (which I see is defective - to $192.91. Which he has offset with charges sufficient to make a balance of one hundred. I demurred at the storage & charge but he says that the profits on the whole work has not paid for the room taken up & trouble generally — Then the question of payment of the balance had to be settled. he said it was quite impossible to settle it all in money - so I took as the best thing he could offer, the note of a neighboring bookseller for $55.28 - due May 2d - and $44.72 in money — The note Putnam says is good if it has his endorsement if that helps it any) & I thought better to take it than to take books which would be difficult to convert into cash - I have since inquired concerning the maker of the note - he is a trade publisher of respectable books & not much is known about him - If he lasts till May 2d - all right. Had I not better call on him & see at what rate of disct he will anticipate it & thus close the affair? — What are you willing to sacrifice for cash? — Last evening I was looking over Putt' acct & found that he had made a misreckoning of $5 - in the sales of Vol 1 - & I called this morning & got that — so I now have on the Flora acct. $49.72 cash & the note. Shall I send you the cash - divide with Dr. T. or what? — Now for plunder - presuming that if the Flora is can continued, you will have the most to do with the publishing of it - I have put all of the odd signatures & oversheets into one box — (Some a few of Vol 2 part 3 which would not go in & which I put into one of Dr Torrey's boxes.) which I send you - The rest I divided according to your directions in letter to Dr. T.

There are in Box 1. 121 Flora Vol. 2. 1-3 folded
30 Genera Vol 1-2.

— Box 2 14 Vol 1. Flora Cloth
19 " " " Folded
20 parts Vol 1. Sewed
10 — — 2 "
1 Bundle Oversheets —

Box 3 — Oversheets
Signatures 46-67 - 68 to end of Vol 1
" 1-63 Vol 2 —

These will go tomorrow - Friday by Stonington Line as freight - you had better send for them on Saturday as I will mark them to be called for -

as you seemed to be desirous that I should get something & finding that 29 & 39 could not be divided by two without a remainder I have taken the odd cloth & sheet vol 1 & a set of sheets vol 2 to keep them company.

Just Sullivan's his money & asked what I should do with his trips –

The Rosmos (ship) sails on Monday next
The steamer Harmonia (or Borussia) on March 1st & a ship probably before March 1st for Hamburgh – Westermann will take charge of anything for Sweden –

Ever truly
George Thurber

New York March 5th 1858

Dear Post. Capt

I am not ill nor have I neglected your business concerning the log — The history of the matter is as follows. When I first inquired about it one of the clerks told me that it had been left at Southampton — on going again after the arrival of the Erie I asked for more particular information & the clerk could find nothing of it in his letters & concluded that he must have mistaken information concerning some other parcel for this — I was expected to visit Elle the arrival of the North Star as they thought it that something would turn up by her — a day or two after her arrival I went again & saw the agent himself — went to the ship with him & made inquiries & found no one ~~one~~ that knew anything about it — that the present mate was not the one who went on the voyage with

p 393. Does Jonidium furnish a "part of the Specimen of Commerce" I have never seen it except in cabinets –

p 398. Is Chocolate "prepared into cakes"?

p. 401. Oil of Bergamot is from Citrus bergamotta & I believe what we call lime is C. Acris – Are they the same?

p 405. Guaiacum is not classed among the gum resins

p 406 – I believe that the smell of commerce used by dyers &c is leaves & not bark –

p 415 Cowitch – is truly Yankee – Cowhage is more elegant but perhaps not so near the original which is Kiwach & of some of the E Indians.

p 423. The "Officinal Colocynth" is the fruit itself – the extract contains very little resin –

p 426 – Do any of the Mirbalins contain a balsam – an term confined to oleo resins containing benzoic acid,

p 433 – Cinchonin & Quinin are spoken of as alkalies –

p 459 Black pepper & Cubeb owe their properties to both volatile oil & resin

The Dog – & that the papers & receipts of the Cutter were not turned over to his successor – The matter has gone to New Orleans & the agent said that he would write to him at once to ascertain if he knew anything about the Dog – It is not yet quite time for an answer to arrive – but I called again today. The agent was not in & his clerks knew nothing – The agent seems desirous of finding the pouch and I thought it was best to give him a fair show – He is quite confident that the Ariel, due in a week or so will bring intelligence of it – Should I insist till then or "demand satisfaction" at once? – you ought to claim something now Mine the cost of the specimens, what do you estimate the value of them looks at? – Poet Torrey is quite out of sorts – has roomed two days but ventured go out too soon & is now ill again – a bad cold only –

Ever yours

George Thurber

Thank you for the copy of the Text Book – I have only run over the systematic part & marked some things which struck me as a little irregular – see notes on preceding page –

I have not fulfilments / Manifiles Chrysis,

New York March 22/58

Dear Dear Gray –

I called last week on the agt of the steam ship Co – & again today – They do not consider that they have had a "reasonable time" to find the boy & decline paying until they are assured by their agents at Southampton & Havre that it is not at those places – Shall I give the matter into your Brothers hands – or wait longer?

In haste as ever

Yours Thurlow

Can't you send me a fragment of Pancinus antiquarius Bose – ?

Send a copy of the Plate to
Dr. Dohrn, Dyck
Dyck, by Neuss. Prussia.

New York April 19th 1858.

Dear Dear Gray

Why do you know
Dr Torrey up about that log
which is half way to Europe,
more or less, by this time? —
I bought a log or cutter
had one made coating 50 $
paid for coating 25 $ —
Wrote to Roding enclosing bill of
lading & to Engelmann (Berlin)
informing him of the sending. for
which letters I paid 30 $ postage
making in all — $ 1,05 — expended
on this acct — which I have
charged to you —

Ever yours George Thurber

N.B. Thank you & Eaton for
grasses — from Blight —

Send me the other 50 copies of
plate. —

New York May 5th 1858

Dear Doct Gray

I have yours of 26th & 30th ult.

The plates of Cuctacean are at Dr Tovey's house.

Doct. Marks that a set of plates have been sent to Sam Dicks but is not certain. I will send a set when he (Dr) gets back from Baltimore. Dr says that he has notified Bigelow about his share of the plates.

Where can I get a set to go with my copy of text? Who has the most you or Dr T.?

The North Star is not in yet.

Called on your Brother who says that he does not anticipate much difficulty in the settlement. He wished me to remind you that you are to send him some answers to queries in his letter.

Cudworth may find longer
- called on him with your
note - he says that he attended
to the plates himself and that
when they went from his
place to Putnam's he is sure
they were correct - regrets that
you did not communicate direct
instead of through Putnam - could
not tell at that moment what
he would do but would write
you at once -
Dr. is still away at Baltimore
- living on champagne & straw-
berries -
Mr & Mrs Rev. Prof. T. F. Holton
have been here some days on
their wedding point - apparently
a good match as to looks -
& she seems an intelligent common
sense body - they go to tell the
soil in Illinois -
Ever yours

George Thacher

George Thurber in Ac with Asa Gray Dr.

	10.92
Bal due Oct 8 —	52.50
Cash = 1/2 of Flora Sales.	63.42

Contra Cr.

Bor to North Star	31.	
Carting Flora	50	
Bor postage to England	1.05	
Paid Westermann	23.87	
" Endicott	20.70	
		46.43
		$16.99

Bal Due D Gray

New York June 1st 1858.

Dear Dost. Fenny

I should have written you before if I had had any data concerning your acct with Dr Torrey — and now I have not a statement of your indebtedness to him. Among his many good qualities he has not that of keeping understandable accounts, and I think that he does not just yet exactly know how much he is out on your account. He told me that he had sent you the items & I suppose that you have sifted it out by this time — the items of his indebtedness to you as per accompanying memo: account to $50.39 less $28.50 for set of Harvey's algae returned — Now when you find what the balance is you can adjust — There is one thing which I may as well tell you — We directed the public printer to send him extra copies of all the reports & he had plates printed to match — two of the reports. Blakes & Littlewells

I think they here — were not sent & the Dr has all the plates on hand without the text — He said that he should say nothing about them to you — but I thought that you perhaps might think them of sufficient value to take your proportion & relieve him of a share of the loss — Speaking of plates I have ~~too~~ both yourself & Dr L. that I had a copy of both papers on Cactaceae without plates & neither of you say plates once — I am willing to pay for them or for text & plates too if I cannot have them without.

About my acct with you — Cost O-st here was a balance due you of $10.92 since then I have rec'd $52.50 — the half of $105 — from Putnam on a/c of Flora, = $63.42 this is offset by $46.43 leaving a balance due you of $16.99 — Now if you are hunder up there I am (having to pay for some books from Rossier's sale) I will pay it — or if you are flush, let it be & draw as occasion requires —

I thank you for the nice little book — so good that I have to give away copies to some little folks. I go to Stanford once a week to talk to about 30 young ladies, on the amiable Science — of course your lessons got a first rate notice & I see that a large number of them have them —

I think of applying for the botanical post — what ever that may be, at the Cooper Institute — As nearly as I learn the concern is to be a kind of democratic Cooper Institute or polytechnic school in which everything like the ologies is to be taught to the masses, free. In speaking with Dr. Bellows, who is in the confidence of the Cooper, he told me that if I had the influence of yourself & Dr Torrey he thought I could get the place — whenever it & its character should be determined on. Now it is a delicate matter to ask you for a "recommendation" — and I leave the matter open for you to act as you see fit — No one knows better than myself my deficiencies. I can only say that I believe that I am on the right track and could by application make myself useful —

In the Text Book, p 229 you say "In full double Buttercups we many often notice a tendency in the inner petals to turn green, that is to retrograde still further into foliaceous organs" I think that there is a peculiarity about this flower that you have overlooked — a continued development of flowers from the receptacle — I examined several the other day & found just the calyx — then several series of petals — then a row of sepals having like the outer ones — another row of petals & in the centre a bud containing more petals — here were three flowers & how long this continues to go on I do not know but will mark a specimen for observation — this was a double R. bulbosus —

June 3

Yours came this morning – I will send the 4th Trains the only one I had of your by tomorrows Express – I don't think Col. Munro treated me at all politely – I wrote him asking him to examine Mary's Tey Grapes & sent the letter with a note of introduction from Dr. T. ~~to~~ tho he ~~did~~ not propose to send Grapes at all – If he wishes grapes let him answer my letter & tell a body where to send & he shall have some of the hardest customers –

Don't know Holtons County – he lives at Hillsboro Illinois – but whether that is sufficient for a letter to reach him I can't say –

Even Very Truly

George Thurber

New York June 1st 1858.

Dear Doctor Gray

Your envelope containing "Grass" came today - you have by this time all that I know about the Aristida. The other thing I should refer to Sporobolus ramulosus Kth. Enum. 1. p 215 & Suppl. p. 172 - Vilfa ramulosa HBK. 1. p 137. tab. 684 - Agrostis minutiflora. Steud. Pl. Glum. 1. p. 171 (vide No 986 Steud)

I send you a small spec. from the Copper mines a starving region - yours seems a luxuriant state from a better country. & I have an intermediate form by Bigelow - the midribe of your lower palea sticks out a little, but I dont know what better to do with it - Bigelows specimen agree with the figure in HBK. as to habit. Compare 1982 & 788 & 789 of 1849, Wright - his 1973 may be a different species. It is not very Sporobolus as the very delicate membrane separates with great difficulty - but the habit is more that way. Hope you have rec'd Trin. by this time. I have been applied to by a publisher to edit a new edition of Darlington's "Agricultural Botany" as Dr D. feels too old to undertake it. His notion seems to have an elementary introduction which would adapt it

as a "text book" for schools. In this light I refused to have anything to do with it considering it foreign to the purpose of the work and that the ground was entirely covered by yourself - I convinced him that my view of the matter was the correct one & agreed to undertake the job of bringing the thing up to the times according to its present plan - that is if Darlington will agree to my notions - viz. to make it less botanical & ~~make it~~ more a popular history of weeds & things & not in any way to take the place of a Flora - There is a great deal in the book which if it did not come from a nice old man would be trash - Must that is mere talk should be left out & the whole thing extended beyond the limits of Chester Co.

What do you think of it? I shall be glad of any suggestions. I know that it will not give me much credit, though some dollars & as it ~~has~~ will be done by somebody at any rate it may as well be by some one who will keep it within proper bounds — If you feel at all as if it would be cropping your track in ~~any~~ any I will drop it not-potatoe-wise.

Ever truly

George Thurber

A very intelligent gentleman, who has recently taken up botany & comes to me occasionally for "aid & comfort" - brought me a Medeola saying that he could not make it out by the manual. I kept him at it for some days thinking he would work it out - I found that he was struck by the "Key"

"+++ Its divisions of two kinds, viz 3 herbaceous or membranaceous sepals and 3 colored petals, &c

United States Assay Office,

New York, June 7 1858.

Not Guilty!

On Friday Morning I brought down "Firmness" with the intention of sending it by Xpress — Dr. Torrey said that he had a parcel packed & ready to go the next morning & that I had better send with it & save Xpenses. Consequently I let one of our men take it up to St Marks & supposed that it was safe in your hands long ago — This morning I find that the parcel has not gone! Indeed it is not my fault at all. That I can do is to send it tomorrow — as it is too

late today
very yours

George Thurston

Moment time to answer
your queries in this —

United States Assay Office,

New York, June 14 1858.

Dear Doctor Gray

Your note & check this morning rec'd. & the letter cashed. There seems to be a regular jumble with this acct. of Dr. Torrey. – He says that you are in error in supposing Engelmann had 150 copies – whereas he had but 100 copies & consequently this item of $51.48 should be abated 1/3 leaving it $34.32 – and the total of your & Engels indebtedness $73.64 —

Secondly – I believe that either you or myself has made some misfeeling about ~~your~~ Dr Torreys indebtedness to you – I did not keep any ~~copy~~ copy of my letter to you & you must see where the error is – I give you a transcript of my memo

in my hurrie I may have
cast it up wrong before,

Dr Torrey to Asa Gray Dr.

July 30 –	Bour. Gin. Bot. part 4	20
	" " 2 – pt 1	50
	Flor Brasil 19-20.	3.50
	Harveys Algae	28.50
	6 Reams Herb. Paper	15.84
	Boc. Lein. Bot. 2. pt. 2.	.50
	Mart. Flor Bras. XXIII	10.38
	Charges on Reports to London	87
		$60.39
	Less cost for Algae	28.50
		$31.89

Amt due Dr Gray.

This deducted from $73.64 leaves $41.75 as due from you to Dr G. This being right it leaves me with a surplus from the proceeds of the check $\left(\frac{68.41}{41.75}\right)$ of $26.66 which I will send back if you have no use to make of it here. Write at once & let us get this thing straight & off our minds –

Yours truly, Joseph Hooker

No Disct. on your check.

United States Assay Office,

New York, June 28 1858.

Dear Co St Kay

Cont scold – it was only after a series of unsuccessful attempts that I could get that a/c. settled – & after all the amounts as I make them from the Co St's Books are quite diff from what you supposed – I have settled as per enclosed memo. & will turn the rest over to Westermann – & it will be most enough to settle his a/c. You have asked several times about the North Star, since I gave the matter up to your brother & had not kept the run of it – I therefore let him know that you were enquiring about the steamer.

Yr 'orrid 'ot –

Mr Frank Bollard a pupil in the botanical line has handed me the enclosed list of errata in the little book — Is dandelion a biennial? see p 27 —

Ever truly,

George Thurber

New York Nov 3rd 1858

Dear Doct Gray.

I enclose a slip for Wright. I have not yet been able to get the copy of Jour. H. R. G. The gentleman who knew of the copy informed me that he had written about it but as yet had received no answer -

I write chiefly to tell you that I am no longer in the assay office and that my address is for the present care of John Meakin 679 Broadway. I would not pay a tax for political purposes at the last election and am disinjured to-day - I do not know what I shall do but must continue to hold on here through the winter.

Poor Doct. Torrey is very much troubled - but he did not take the stand he took in the last difficulty - he has unfeedly

abandoned all control over his Department and is now subject to the whims of the Superintendent - I do not write this in any disrespect but in pity for his situation. If I know my own feelings I am more troubled for him than for myself - for he has others depending upon him, while I am solus. I shall probably have lots of time to attend to any commissions and am ever

very truly yours

George Thurlow

P.S. 4th Have just heard that a copy of Fore Flora can be obtained for $20 - colored plates - answer required immediately.

New York, Dec 30th 1859
Cooper Inst.

Dear Dr Gray.

The Panicum seems to me a starved P. capillare - pedicels shorter as well as flowers & the fertile floret a little more rounded & the Texas plant goes further in the other direction - Pray dont make another species of Panicum if it can be squeezed in anywhere else - I dont at all understand your P.S. "Very sorry you got paper 2 or 3 inches too long" In the letter (without date) asking me to get the paper. you say "like that of which I send you a ½ sheet or only a trifle larger" - supposing that you would prefer it larger if it could as well be had. I proceed that which exceeded - at most a half inch. The size of sample - Dr Wright seeds I admit that it should be at Dect. they who issued the order and not at the humble executioner - A friend finds one in N. Jerseys arralia 5 folia with the leaflets compound - is it often so? A happy New Year to you & yours -

Ever yours
George Thurber

The botanical world is much indebted to me as I have just saved the life of Sir William Hooker. A friend who had written an article for the New Cyclopaedia showed me the proof thereof; & upon the same sheet was a sketch of Hooker which I had the curiosity to look at - I found that he died in June 1857 - I immediately went to the office & had him resuscitated & hope he will stay so for many years.

Guatemala, June 17th 1860

Dr. Gray,

Dear Sir,

Under the impression, from a letter that I received some time ago from my friend Thurber that you are naming my Isthmus plants, I have resolved to send you a few that I have collected in San Salvador and in this country. Those that I send you now are numbered, so that, should any of them prove of any interest, and you could let me know it, I might procure you better specimens and more of them.

Nothing would please me more than to hear from you, and to know if any of my Isthmus things are of sufficient interest to make up for the trouble I have taken in collecting them.

If there are any things in botany of peculiar interest in this country, and you could indicate them to me, I would be glad to give them special attention.

I shall send you, if I can, some of the ripe fruit of the Ule of this country, from which all the india-rubber of Central America is obtained; and, whilst on the "Balsam Coast" in San Salvador, I got plenty of good ripe fruit of the balsam tree, which I shall also send you.

If you can find time to write me a few lines, please direct to care of Capt. Dow, Steamer "Guatemala", who will always know where I am.

Respectfully Yours,

Sutton Hayes.

are Symphoricarpus, Spiraea opulifolia, Viburnum pubescens & Opulus, Lonicera oblongifolia - Betula pumila - Staphylea trifolia - Ptelea - Pyrus Coronaria. Euonymus atropurp - Would you like any of these for Dort. Central? Have a correspondence with Miss Clark - who seems to be generally known as a botanist - as she is about a half century old - not handsome & a democrat there is no fear of anything growing out of it - With remembrances to Mrs Gray I remain

as ever Yours

Cheyney S Hurlbut

State Agl. College
Lansing Mich. July 27/60.

Dear Doct. Gray.

I have been very slow in acknowledging your favors in the way of plants & the Southern Botany - For the former the Secretary of the college was directed to return thanks - The box was for several weeks in Detroit, the stupid transportation people did not notify my friends there, to whose care the box was plainly directed & to whom I had arranged to forward it at once, but after a while notified me & I had to send down from here for it. When the case arrived the shrubs were very dry but I buried them in moist earth before planting & I think that I shall save 3/4 or more - nearly all of the herbaceous things are doing well - The boys look with great interest upon the things that came from Doct. Gray - Everything except mere farm & vegetable garden being perfectly new. we do not expect to make much show this year; several large beds have been laid out near the building upon a plan which will be splendid hereafter. The Supt. of Horticulture is a most excellent man

who has the rare quality of knowing what he dont know - He is always ready to aid in carrying out my notions & we get along admirably together - I have two classes in Botany & the freshman class in Elements of Nat. Philosophy - One of the Bot. classes went through with the Lessons last year & I keep them at work on the determination of plants - studying families as far as the season will allow - this is a small class of eight, four of whom will be botanists, i.e. take a real interest in the matter which will continue with them. I find they are frequently in trouble from not being properly drilled in structure - the other class I take from the beginning and am determined to have no such difficulty with them. I am drilling them with the text book which they have gone over to the end of the structural part & will now review. This class consists of 14 Sophs - about 6 of whom take to the matter in a most gratifying way. Do you put your classes through the systematic part? is it advantageous to study families without regard to genera & species? - I am using the text Book & Manual with boys who take up the subject for the first time I find things which I think might be altered for the better, as well as typographical mistakes which I will communicate when you are to reprint. In the Key to the manual there are several things which are difficult to a beginner but which can readily be seen through by those more advanced. I have not been able to make any extended excursions as my time is so much taken up. I find very nice people here & get along with my colleagues & the students very smoothly. Still I dont think that the place altogether suits me, in the first place it is very unhealthy & then I am so hard worked in college duties that I have no time for anything else - I hoped to work some hours every day on my catalogue & haven't been the first day when I could do so. Then I haven't been able to get any pay - not one of the faculty has had a dollar this year as yet. The treasury of the state is full of emptiness & we are rather dolorous - I must do something desperate if they dont cash up very soon - Chapman's book looks very nicely - Hope to look at it more thoroughly bye & bye - Did you know that Gymnocladus grew in this state? I found some suckers upon the stump of a tree that had been felled & afterwards plenty of young trees 6-10 ft high - Among the things that I have my eye on for removal this fall

New York March 2d 1861.

Dear Doct. Gray

Your favors of 15th Feb. thankfully recd. Of course Doct. Torrey did not tell me about the Graphephorum. When is the paper to be published or have you a copy with the conspectus?

Arctica bulbosa Geyer is M. procerior Nutt Pl. Gamb! Nutt's specimen and more of Bigelow & Fitch have no base but I found in the Ec. Ex. Coll. a solitary one with the bulbosity. As a reward for your trouble in sending the specimen I have begged a young one from Doct. Torrey for you. I have been at odd times working at the grasses collected in Wilkes' Expd. I have satisfied myself about all but a few Braceous things - about which I am much troubled. The hunt of books & the indefinite distinctions made in the genera make this group a stumbling block to me. I send you specimens of my undetermined things

and shall be much gratified if you can give me any hints about them. do try - Why I wished to know about Aira melica. was that I found a specimen of Nuttall's from the Island of Catalina so labelled by him (Bot) - which I was quite sure could not be the plant of Mich. I wish you would let me have the 5th vol of Lindlev (Grasses) for a few days, I have ordered it but it will not be here for some time yet - Send to college & dont pay express charges.

as ever

George Thurber

P. S. The same Elymus as your 121 X centus is in the Wilkes' grasses. & seems to me to be E. condensatus Presl. E. dasystachys, or what I take to be that, has narrower leaves a slender & loose spike with two spikelets at the joints of the hairy rachis & very hairy florets.

I do not know yet whether I return to Michigan - I have not heard whether the legislature has appropriated. They dissolve on the 9th since I shall know soon. Our term closes here in about 2 weeks. If I go west I shall go to see my family for a few days & will run down & say how do you do. What is the India - Rubber tree of Central America? Dwy's wishes to know if any good descr with figures has been published. He thinks that the India Rubber men there will have it done if there is none - Prof. Torrey is off to help inaugurate old Abe. Since the election he seems to talk more freely.

If you are sending to Christchurch soon, please put in the enclosed or - as I do not know his address - please post it by itself & let me know the dommage -

G. L.

New York Nov 20/65

Dear Dr Gray -

First some questions - Have you satisfied yourself as to the cause of the efflorescence on Azalea discoloration sometimes on the leaf & sometimes the flower?

2d - Berth - in H. & W's British Flora says of Avena fatua, "it has been lately shown that the cultivated oat is but a variety of the same species, readily degenerating into the wild form" - By whom & where has it been shown?

I have sold 3 of the Bolander sets of grasses etc. I have one & shall want two more, which save for me. I managed in this way. A Mr Denslow is specimen crazy - so I told him I would give him 50

desirable specimens for any set he would dispose of. That's what I call strategy. About Guerinean. He has lots of recommendations from former employers, but he would prefer that you should write directly to them. His letter from Decaisne he gave to Prof. Sargent when he first came over. He refers you to Verlot, Jardin des Plantes - Chas Verdier, 32 Rue des Marche aux Chevaux - Paris. M. Adolf Rolé, 151 Rue de Bourcine (?) - Louis Trinité, 18 Rue Dareau, Mont Rouge, Paris & to Decaisne as well as to Carter, the English house he was with. He understands Orchids & is fond of studying but how well up in botany I cannot say. Speaks English fairly - better than Lingoelle did. He now gets $65 per month with two rooms over the conservatory house, vegetables & milk. Still he has a desire to get where he can improve himself in botany. Would prefer to go to you for less than he now gets as he thinks the place would be more to his tastes. He is not obliged to make a change & the talk about it originated with me because I thought it would be a good thing for both you & Mr. D. I am not so very well acquainted with him - but my impressions are that he is just the kind of person you need - you might judge differently - At all events I think it would be well if you could see him & perhaps you could make a bargain with him - As he has just married a (English) wife, it is very likely that a decent house will have some weight with him - As ever

George Thurber

(Over)

New York Jany 3rd 1866.

Dear Doctor Gray.

I find a letter written to you three weeks or so ago which was never sent. & now it is a thing of last year I will write again.

1st I saw Guernsey and asked him how he would consider an offer of $50 per month, house etc. He wished to know if there was an opportunity to get anything by the sale of plants or in any other way. I could not tell him about that, but told him that the present gardener took prizes at the Exhibition. He wishes to leave his present place as the gentleman is "en amateur" but has green houses etc. because it is customary for rich people to do so. G. evidently would like to make the change if he could do so without too great a sacrifice. I wish you could make it convenient to ~~see~~ on & see him.

2d About Bolanders set. One is to

go to D. F. Day. Attorney at Law Buffalo, N. Y. who will remit to you, and one to Dr. Traill Green, Easton Pa: with this last I shall owe you for 4 sets, 3 of which I have the money for – or rather had – for having occasion to pass through a crowd assembled to serenade the Governor, some one was more attentive to my notes than to those of the band. In short I experienced the delightfully flattered out sensation of a picked pocket. So let me know when you wish to remit to Bolundered I will settle.

3d Gen. Plantarum. Cuma. Dvet. Torrey could not find the letter nor recollect how much it was or I would send the money now, as you must be out of pocket for it.

4th Do you think that enough copies of Darwins paper on climbing plants could be sold to pay the cost of printing – We would reprint it in pamphlet form if we could cover the cost.

Brewer was here last week – he is not robust yet. Paine brought me his catalogue – What work he has made with English names! A happy new year to yourself and good Mrs. Gray from

Friendly Yrs

George Thurber

Newyork June 25-72

My Dear Mrs Gray.

Some two weeks ago that piece of human pyrotechnics — Youmans, Editor of Appletons Popular Science Monthly — called upon me to state that a portrait of Doctor Gray was to be published in the Journal & that he wished me to "write it up" as we say technically — Then let us stop & take breath & begin another sentence —

I understood J. that the application was made to me at the Doctor's request and that he (the Doctor) would send me some data. Now the good man has probably forgotten all about it or is too busy to attend to it

So I must ask you to send me such points as you would like to have appear in a memoir of the kind. I suppose they want something like that given about Prof. Dunn, though I will try & make it less dry. Of course I know enough about the Dr's botanical work for the purpose - what I wish you to give me is the "birth parentage & education" part of the story - dates of graduation, setting out Cambridge - in short such things as the public have any business with.

Now wont you kindly consult the Subject - & send me some notes right soon? - I expect they will be after me every day for the article & I have been all the time waiting for materials for dissection.

I hope you have sufficiently recovered from the Jubilee excitement to give your minds to the facts -

Did Dr. G. see my notice of his "Bow Plants' Behavior" in Hort & Agriculturist?

I suppose you will go to California & I shall have the pleasure of seeing you en route. I know no more of the Torreys than if they lived in Alaska except that I hear from one who is not a friend that the oldest is doing that which displeases the rest -

Very sincerely Yours

George Thurber

California journey did both yourself & Mrs Gray lots of good –

Very truly

Horace Hurlbut

N.B. the plants spoken of go by mail –

N. Sept 23 – 72

My Dear Doct. Gray.

I suppose you are at home, but dont know. I have been waiting for a sinking down on account of the crudity of that article in Pop. Sci. Monthly. To be sure it is not much worse than the portrait, but I expected it would be different. You dont like long stories so it happened, briefly, this – I agreed to write a sketch to Madame for Dates. One evening I scratched out such things as came into my head (Mem dont turn out on me – I see the opportunity) in the way of detached notes & anecdotes and from hand quotations (mainly of course Mrs. Gray) While writing, took my regular turn of fever & ague – learned you were away – Editor came most here & there – I gave him notes. he promised to use them as notes & fix it up generally – Imagine

how cross I was to get proof of my rough notes & nothing else! Too late to do anything so I concluded to throw myself on the mercy of the court & ask you a verdict of "not guilty if he won't do it again".

Now then – I send enclosed an article from N.Y. Tribune of Saty last which you may not otherwise see. (as with true Massachusetts conservatism you don't go for Bonnie which I do) I don't know who wrote it.

Also – Can you tell me anything about ~~[illegible]~~ Diplopappus chrysophyllus

When it comes from & whose S/S?

I have a plant, a recent importation from France. And it is a beauty. I send bit in another parcel. It is said to grow readily from cuttings & probably Eucrinean can start the bit I send –

Also – I send enough of a Japanese veronica now almost out of flower for you to determine – I think. It was sent over by Thom. Hogg. I value it highly as the flowers are of an intensity of blue that is hard to equal – Wouldst thought a bit of it to grow?

I suppose I have sent odds & ends that you would be glad of if you have them not. More which come into my head (that head again) at the moment. Are Eulalia Japonica the most beautiful of the medium sized ornamentals – 5–6 ft. & distinctly marked – Perfectly hardy too.

Chelone barbata – I never had before & its just handsome – Aquilegia aurea from Roelly seeds by Roezel – has it been regularly descr.? it is fine & distinct. I have Mertensia maritima growing, but not yet big enough to divide – And at last after three years trial Linnaea is growing just as if it were at home.

But this is a long letter for either you or myself – I hope this

fragment of a plant. It comes from a gentleman in Ga. for a name. It grows in his garden and dies down every winter, herbaceous perennially - That is all he says about it. As it is a person upon whose warm side I wish to keep, I will thank you to look at the thing & see if you recognize it - Being double, no good structure can be made out - at least I tried two flowers & found no good "innards" as dear Torrey used to say. When I first saw it I thought of Cordia, but that rarely alternates - Please don't bother with it, but if you know it off hand, let me know -

Have in the green house in good fruit a Psilotum which Tom. Hogg brought from Japan - Is it P. triquetrum, which my books say is the only species? - Or you want spec - or plant? - You don't mention the genus in your memoir on the Japan & N. A. Flora .... The above notice is from tonights Evg Post - Don't remember to have seen or heard of the work before - Do I want it? -

Emerson Trees & Shrubs
Comm. with Autographs
Thanks to you

Peters - Nov - 3 - 75.

My Dear Doctor Gray -

To answer your first? - "Are you home yet?" - Yes!! Arrived on Friday last - It does not pay for me to go off, even for a fortnight - A week of hard work in preparing matters so that I can leave, and then another week of straightening out the crookedness - and Oh! the accumulation of covers/wonder on, is paying dear for the chandelle -

To business first - I do wish the series you propose. The objection to the Apios article you sent - or rather what it lacked for our uses, was that it assumed that people in general knew that insects had anything to do with fertilization at all. Now, if you will allow me to suggest - Please remember that 999 in 1000 people do not even know the relation between stamens & pistils. I would like it if you could choose some running title for the series. & then tell the innocents that everybody of course knows what the ♂ & ♀ do.

putting the pill in under the sugar - then give a brief sketch of the general relations of insects to plants - what X fertilization is for + then come in with the simplest of your cures - Recollect that it is some 8 or 10 years since you wrote for us on that before, + the set of readers has largely changed - After getting the gist of the orgience (as Artemus Ward used to say) you can be as learned as you please. This is my suggestion + after considering it, take your own way. If you don't care to go down to the rudiments - make your simplest article first, + I will make the introduction to the series for you.. I had rather not have too large instalments. but let the series run on.

As to cuts - there is no "must" about having the cutting done here, but it is rather expedient. We have the engravers on hand, under pay, and if they cannot do the work it is so much sand. Our head engraver is a sensitive man, and at the same time one of the best in the city. It would well nigh break his heart to have this work done out-side, and I am sure if the drawings are clear, and just as the engraving should be, he will do them as well as any one can. I have examined the cuts in Morse, and find only good clean work, with a careful use of lines - One man knows how much expression can be put into a single line, and if the drawings tell the story, he can interpret it faithfully in wood. Of course we wish to have the cuts satisfy you, and they shall do so. Under the circumstances, I think you had better send the blocks for the first article, and if the proofs do not satisfy you, then we will have them done by some one who will. Our head man thinks so much of me and tries so hard to please me, that I do not wish to wound his pride by having work done elsewhere - D'ye See? If convenable let the series begin in Jany - - - By this mail I send in a little bag the most miserable

May 3, 75

(2)

Bless me! all that and more to come!
Went to Charleston by sea. Severe storm
detained us 24 hours. Met Good
Prosper J. at Macon, gave two days
to the fair there, and then had four
days chez lui. My beloved Rheuma-
tism kept my foot in just that
condition which prevented tramping
much. We rode to see the Elliotts
locality &c. but I was obliged to
keep pretty quiet. and I had
four days of more real rest than
has fallen to me in a long time.
All united me to send kindest re-
membrances to yourself and Mrs.
Gray. and all, including the little
boys, seem to have enjoyed your
visit there as much as you did
yourself.. Tell Mrs. Gray that Mrs.
Beckmann paid me the greatest com-
pliment that has yet fallen to my lot.
She did not tell me, but P.J. did. That
when she first saw Mrs Gray, she thought

"Well. if that isn't Thurlow's sister, she is some relative of his" — Madame wont like it — but it is very jolly for me! Just imagine what an inhard satisfaction I must feel, after being been all there many years likened unto Henry Ward Beecher, Horace Greeley, Ben Butler and the like to find there is some one who can see something vastly better in me.

= I am to have a wedding = Not mine. I thank you. My sister Sarah, who has lived with me there several years, and Woolson, whom you ~~had~~ have seen — I think — have concluded to make one. I think it will make no difference in my domestic affairs. and matters will go on as heretofore. It removes a great care from my mind, for I have been trying there many years to provide for the future of this and another, and invalid sister, and I feel very much comforted in the thought that "my youngest" will be taken care of when I can no longer care for her — Sincerely — Thurlow —

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AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

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"Pris". ~~New-York~~, Sept 30 1876.

Dear Doctor Gray -

Not hearing from you in time, I suppose it was a case of Sprague - His plant should have been named ~~Spraguea~~ serotina, instead of S. umbellata - for I dont believe he is humble-aster disappointing you - (Wuss yet!) Watson was at the office for a short time this A.M. - Enroute for Northampton. He actually barfed, out loud. He says you brought home a lot of seeds - dont forget that we are very hungry for seeds, when there are any to spare -

My present object is to ask if any one has written up the insect catching ways of Araujia (Physianthus) albens? - A few days ago I had an argument with one of our florists about insectivorous plants - He contending that while Dionaea or Cruptis insects, they made no use of them - it was against nature that a plant should feed upon

an animal - They caught insects for the fun of it to - To day he lends me a box of Araujia flowers, by which moths of various kinds & sizes had been caught from little fellows, up to large sphinges - to show that the plant catches insects just to amuse itself - To him this was a clinch - ing argument, as here were dozens of moths - sometimes two to a flower, all caught by their long proboscides, and hanging about to the amusement of every one but themselves - Of course he cant see that the cases - this and true insectivora, are not parallel. The phenomenon is so striking that I think some one must have described it, as the plant is well known to florists as an in - sect trap - I examined a number of the flowers and found that the insects were all caught in the same manner. The straight edges of two adjacent anthers are very rigid; above them is the gland or corpuscule to which the candicles of the pollen masses are attached; below there is the honey cup (appendage to filament?). It is hard - ly possible for a moth to pull out its pro - boscis after going for sweets, without getting it caught between these two edges of the anthers which have a good deal of spring to them, and up - parently pinch closer towards the top & act as a regular clamp. Here the insect hangs until starved or fatigued to death, having accomplished nothing, as I did not find

in any case the pollinia dislodged.
My notion is that in its own country there are insects that when caught thus, are able to "pull through" and in clearing their proboscis bring out the pollen to fertilize the ovules - In this country our bugs are intended for other work, and by meddling with things they dont understand - the structure in Asclepiads being difficult to animals much further developed - come to a miserable end. If no one has presented this view of the matter I thought I might fig up an item with an engraving for the bulletin, but I should not like to make a "Dom Pedro" of myself - and warm up cold vittles -
Did I tell you he had a young Woolson - and that he is a boy, and that the mother is remarkably well - and the father - hell
You have seen how they act -

Very Truly
George Thurber

P.S. Have somewhere - not long ago - seen discussion as to the production of chlorophyll in the dark - The germination of seeds within an orange with green plumule cited as a remarkable instance - but I much doubt if the interior of an orange is very dark.

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New-York, ... *187*

Thought I had a claim in friend in the En-
tomologist. Let find out the nature
of Entomologist. Is it the same
the same thing in Germany - or the thinks
it might be thus entitled to ?

Apropos of Araujia (Physianthus) & insects - You - ask why they don't pull out by backing down - That's just what they can't do - even had they sense enough - Their proboscis is so very long and slender that they can't push back on it - Future generations of Sphingidae may learn how, but were you to see the insects in situ, you would be convinced that they can not liberate themselves - This is an awfully destructive arrangement for the moths & dont, apparently do the plant a bit of good - A stronger insect could push through and take out the pollen - Q

Thurberia Oliv. to —

"Pines", Oct. 19. 76.

Dear Doct. Gray -

I left for another hitch at the Centennial on the 5th - the day on which your last was written, and since my return have been too busy to breathe at ease -

About Thurberia - his children, or namesakes are troublesome - I did not know that you had agreed that the Malvaceous boy should be given up - I had much rather it would be a grass. But you must do as you think best.

The principal drawback to this Apocynaceae is the poverty of materials - not much extract, even for an engraving - I have only one specimen with one flower, and don't think I had enough of it to give one to Herb. Jos. as my specimen has the original field label, with

Dept. Torrey's notes on it, which is a pretty sure indication that it was loaned and returned. I think it was not among the specimens I sent Hooker - and Thurber's among plants are as scace as elsewhere. I dont know where Wright collected his specimen, but I think that the locality for mine, Magdalena, does not come into Arizona - but not sure -

Sargent went Philadelphia and on Monday after having the worst weather of the season here. But where is Engelmann? - Have been to the city two days on which I much wished to stay at home, as S. said he would be here on Tuesday or Wednesday -

I have seen somewhere an account of a jumping or animated seed from California - But one of them given to me - It is a capsule, apparently of a tricapsellary capsule, somewhat like an Euphorbiad - Do you know what plant it is from or can you give me reference to description - The thing moves about quite lively by one maggot power - Please reply to this by postal -

Also can I get herbarium paper better or cheaper than from the Naturalists agency Salem - Couldnt get in your "Root or Tuber" for Nov - or rather had it in but was obliged to take it out to make room for some musts.

I wouldnt swear to it, but it is my distinct impression that when shoots do start on a fruit tuber, they appear in a regular spiral arrangement. Better try & see how this is.

As ever

George Thurber

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"The Pines" ~~New York~~, Dec. 25th 1876.

Dear Doctor Gray,

A Merry Christmas to you & yours — though it is rather severe with me — But there is no reason why we should not wish others better off than ourselves — I have well nigh lost a week — the wretched rheumatism (why not W in one case as well as the other?) which had left me so long that I hoped it had forgotten me altogether, returned early in the week, and though not by any means at its worst, was poor company & kept me from doing much — But for this you would have had proof sooner — Pray dont add to it essentially, as we shall be crowded this month; and it is now rather longish for an article without pictures.

As to Miss —'s translation. I saw my friend at Scribner's - and learned that all translations are now excluded under a general rule - I then tried Appleton's Journal - and enclosed is the Editors reply - They are all afraid of translations, as some rival may come out with the same thing translated by some one else - Will send up to Appletons & get back the Ms. Where else can I try? - It would not do the least good for me to offer it to Tribune - The name of the Editor of the Weekly is Brookstaver - You might ascertain if he would consider it, and I could send it to him. My friend at Scribner's suggests the "Ledger" as the most probable place, but I do not know any one there - Indeed I am very little acquainted with the personnel of the Secular press - hence my ability in this case is not equal to my willingness to serve the young lady.

Very sincerely

George W. Curtis

"Paris" – June 5 – 77

Dear Doctor Gray

Yours of 3d – now at hand, asks for an account of myself: Six or seven years ago, about this I was, without warning, taken with haemorrhage, – I think you were abroad then – Coming at the beginning of winter, recovery was very slow. This time it came, equally without warning – save perhaps a feeling of uneasiness and disinclination to do much for a day or two – It was more severe than before, and as there was a good deal more of me, it reduced me much more than then. As before I have had all sorts of percussings and auscultings made, and nothing can be found about the lungs that is not secundum artem and perfectly sound. The conclusion, in both cases, has been, that some surface artery in the lining of the bronchial tubes

you at home, it would be escaping for me to have "a den" elsewhere. Before I could go to Cambridge – to work up the grasses, there is no small job to be done at home – Several years ago – despairing of anything being done with the California flora, I incorporated the typical set, with my herbarium. These, and all other grasses of the region, must be taken out of the herb, & put up ready to take with me, as all my notes refer to this set – Of course I may find things in your herb, which will upset my present notions, but as the sheets that I have worked over a good – deal – first and last. I should have this for reference. As to the necessity for straightening things. I feel that – most of those cuts have been ready – there many months, in one of my drawers, with your name on them – When I get to the office I will have a few others added, and send them to you.

gets out of kilter. So much for conditions precedent. At present, if I keep still, I feel about as well as usual. If I go out and walk half way down the garden, I come back so exhausted that it takes a half a day to get over it. I am gradually, but very slowly gaining, but am not strong enough to do anything of consequence. I have — except the three days or so, when I was bleeding profusely, kept the run of, and directed all the office work. I don't think it a good plan to abdicate so long as it is possible to think clearly.

As to my plans, I have not yet laid any. I must get stronger before I can go away. I have given much thought to the grass matter, and how it can be best brought about. I told the people at the office that I should be off, more or less on this matter before my present illness. Still there are lots of details, which can not well be explained, but which have to be considered, and I can't yet — until I see how I am coming out — whether I am to be good for anything — decide. This matter of Bookus coming now, right off — is a surprise, and I can see that you would gladly have it deferred. If he is to arrive at N.Y., let me know, as other things allowing, I should be glad to meet him and see him safely through the dangers of Gotham on his way to the Hill. At all events, I hope that I may see him while he is in this country.

— As to shutting up your house. If I came to Cambridge to stay several weeks, it would not be just the thing to take up my quarters with you as a "permanency". A visit is one thing, boarding round as country schoolmasters do, is a very different matter, and even were

will chiefly occupy the Dept of Agriculture. I hope you will tell me what an entomologist — even though he may be the chief coleopterist (which Le C. isn't) in the country, can positively know about such matters — He would be as thoroughly out of place as I should be as director of the Cambridge observatory —

But — and you will be glad of it — I am not able to write more. If you are adventuring Le C. in the supreme words of Punch — "Don't".

I have said this brief say, on the supposition that my correspondent is right — I hope he isn't — If he is, I hope you will reconsider — At all events, I have written too much — but am truly as ever

George Hubbard

Aug 5, 77

This second sheet, I begin with a sort of provisional scold. I have received a letter from a friend of ours, strongly advocating, and asking my influence in the same direction — J. L. Le Conte as Commissioner of Agriculture. The letter says: "Dbt. Gray, and about all the scientific fraternity in the land are going for Le Conte".

Admitting, for the sake of argument, that this may be true as relates to yourself (though I doubt not it is too strongly put), please allow me to ask

Why?

Will you, or any one else, tell me what single quality he possesses, that should make the place need him. — That he needs the place, very much, I do not doubt, at least I judge so from the letters he has written. But what remote qualification he has, I have not seen set forth. It is true that he is an

entomologist — but in a very limited branch of the science. And no one can point to anything that he has done for popular, or practical entomology — i.e. the pointing out the habits of insects, and showing how best to head them off. But entomology is not Agriculture, any more than the making of harness, or the casting of plows is — simply remote accessories. Any ~~[illegible]~~ nomination more unfit to be made, I have not heard of. Now I have not the slightest personal feeling in the matter. I only know him by sight, and he does not know me at all. I should say that he was "a jolly good fellow" especially where there has a good dinner — hardly in person, in tastes or associations, to be put forward as the representative farmer of America.

As near as I can get at the matter, it is this: There are a lot of young wealthy "bloods" in Phila. who are able to support farms, with fancy horses, fancy cattle & whatever else their means will allow. If their butter costs them $1.50 or $2 per lb. they are doing splendidly, when they can get $1 - per lb in the Phila. market. This set, who have a notion, because they know nothing themselves, that a man who knows buys must know everything, have started Le C. as one of their own number, & he, taking advantage of his being one of the Immortals — or of the Academy, has pulled his scientific string in his favor. It simply won't do. If the Department, which I must doubt, is to do anything for agriculture, its labors will be mainly directed — for the next 10 years at least — to the Southern States — which are undergoing the transition from planting to farming. Instead of raising one crop, cotton, and buying everything else, they must raise their own provisions. The various animals best suited to the South; the methods by which they can feed them — especially the establishment of permanent pastures, & regular rotations — these and many other things relating to a transition from almost barbarism, to rational agriculture, are the matters that

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"The Rice" ~~New York~~, July 6th 1877

Dear Doctor Gray -

As I was going for the cars this P. M. to come home, a loud voice behind me called out - "Say, has the K. S. D. come yet?" I looked around and did not at first recognize you - mans, who was espectacleons and quite imberbis, though I should have known the voice. It came to me that "K. S. D." was short for Doct. Hooker, and it thereupon occurred to me that it was about time for him to come and you all to go. Time has run on so that I doubt if this catches you.

I was rather disappointed that he should conclude to enter the country by a side door. I think that the only N. Y. State official that I know (I am sure that

I dont know any of the city dignitaries (?) is one of the quarantine commissioners, and I have arranged to board the ship at quarantine and to have special facilities for leaving it. But the change in the programme renders this of none effect. As to writing for A. A. - while gone, I doubt if you find much chance, unless storm bound. If you can drop some notes, even if not strongly lucolic or that colic due to bogtropis - which probably makes the sheep keel over with its sharpness - a sort of accidental disease you know, though it dont attack cattle - I would like it. In getting seeds, pray dont forget to put in an ap-tray bench or so for us. Letters to Woolson from a friend in New Mex. say that the red-skins are getting uneasy and they are fearing trouble. It will be well for you to be guided by the advice of officers at the frontier posts, especially should you get down towards the Mimbres & copper mine region - the Apaches there are of the meanest stripe of a mean tribe.

you just left it in doubt whether you should ignore St. G. or pass through it. If the caution does not come too late, let me know how this will be as early as you decide — i.e. if to stop en route — as I do not go to the city much and communication is slow —

I hope I may see Dr Hooker when you return — if not before.

By the way, did you see what a "first rate notice" Masters gave Meehan in Gard. Chron? It will do him more good than many dollars.

I suppose there will be no wrong in mentioning your trip in the right A.A — as you will be then safely out of reach.

You no doubt heard of the end — (or what will probably be practically the end) of Olney — Insane —

By the way where is Parry — does he go with you? — I wish you to all Bon Voyage, and much pleasure — Asa Gray

George Thurber

OCA

You ask how I am — To all appearance as well as ever, but I do not get strong. The first two visits to the city, though I took it as easy as possible, so fatigued me that it took two or more days to recover — I manage to get along with my paper work, but a little over exertion demands a long rest. When the hot weather is over I hope to be all right.

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New-York, ... *187*

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"The Ries" ~~New York~~, May 15th 1878

Dear Doct. Gray,

The enclosed note from Ripley will indicate what has become of that notice of the Hoe -

Bully for us! (Probably, it is not well, as the Frenchman says, "to make ze crows until you get out of some woods.) - A change! so large that it is almost radical, in our office, will, if all things work together for good, relieve me of details and put me in a position of ease, such as has not been mine for the last 16 years. I can tell better than I write about it - It has been pending for some time, but I did not dare say anything about it, and now that it is consummated - all but seeing how it will work - it seems almost too good to be true. Essentially it makes "the old Doctor" as the boys sometimes call me, "a power behind the throne", with a controlling throttle valve on others, and the liberty to do pretty much "as he chum pleases" - A.B.

thats not slang - its the words of a Harvard Professor. It may be that the getting the machinery in motion - for already I foresee some friction, that will need me as a lubricator - I may postpone my visit for a few days - but the result will be - as I hope & trust - no need of hurry or fret for fear something may go wrong -

Mr Judd says that he and I "have done hard work enough - and now we can go a-fishing" - My spectacles are not couleur de rose, but I shall accept all the good that comes out of it, feeling that I have earned it.

Very truly as ever

George Thurber

Show this to Sargent - to whom I can't just now write - as an answer, in part, to his last letter θ

Can you supply the Flora in sheets? If so, please send two copies in sheets to Woolson. θ

- but found if no sheets

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New-York, Nov. 5 1879

What is the use of being a Botanist?
Or a Professor
Or an M. D.
Or an L. L. D.
Or yet a Member of the Institute
"The prophet is not without honor save in his own country" — (or words to those effect —
But then we should remember that —
"The nearer a kicking horse the safer"
Here is a man —
He has seen something written in the A. A by one Prof. A. G.
He would get some information from A. G. afresh — — —

He writes via N. Y.-
This is an age of prompt communication
Also of general intelligence.
If there is a State where general intelligence
is more general - or than in any other
That State is Massachusetts -
If any place has it worse than another -
That Place is Boston - The very Hub
Get this man
Who writes
And sends his letter
To Prof. A. G.
In New York
Lives -
Moves -
And has his being
In B - O - S - T. O. N - !!!! -
Why was the State House Dome
Gilded? -
Why - why is this thus?

G

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New-York, Jan 29 1880 -

Dear Watson,

Coming to the office this a.m. I find your note complaining "No copy yet" As the notification that you needed copy only reached me day before yesterday - and as yesterday I ~~was~~ was laid up with a sick headache. The moral is that you should ask several days ahead -

There are several things in your last to answer - several things I wish to ask you - all of which must wait until I can write you -

The object of this is to say that I have sent by ~~express~~ express today, copy from pp. 40 to 88 incl - besides the Ischium which should come after Ramicene, in the arrangement I have adopted. Will send some more in

a few days as soon as I can write a few lines — Thanks you for any changes or suggestions or queries that will help to the betterment of the matter —

In haste truly

George Thurber

P.S. Parcel goes by express — as it costs but about half as much as by mail & we get a receipt for it — which mule Sam giveth not —

I send on my 1 book

not go into the Flora? If left out it will be a lack o' her and not a lack o' you or o' me! That's as bad as a convalescent can be expected to weep - with a pen for a weapon - but you'll say "we-pun, sick or well". In other words is it best to notice Mrs. Austin's Corn? - As in the same Tribe of Grasses - Have you Bot. Zeit. for 1851 - If so please consult Klotzsch, p. 718, and see if he says any more about Zea macrosperma than Stend. p. 9 - quotes for that sp. Some of the seeds of a Zea have come to me, which macro enough - Indeed I may as well send you a Kernel - (why not Major general?). Please look at the deser, & see if you can help beyond what I find in Stend - I suppose this is not hit by Bonafous. - Look at the tops of these two - they have the makings, the starting point of two very distinct races, as such things go in other corn. One starts on the beaked style as we see it so strong in the "Rico" corn - the other has the beginnings of a whole race of "dent" varieties. I would be grand stuff to grow for telegraph poles, only the season is not long enough even for a "tassel".

As ever Truly Thoreau

"The Ries"

Feb. 20 - 80 -

My Dear Watson -

You may be very sure that something more than being "under the weather" has kept me silent so long - If I have not been seriously, I have been severely ill - sick - hors du combat - flattened out, or whatever familiar phrase you prefer. It began with a bad cold - then I had lungs - then more lungs, all the while afraid almost to cough - and cough I must - on account of that miserable hæmorrhage that holds its thingumy kind o' sword all the time - I wrote a word some days - a week or more perhaps, ago, and then Reaching - went in for a relapse again - Well it's no use to bother

It does one no good to relate his ills and no one is interested. If the receipt herewith - Only this should have 2 friends to account for what might have seemed an obstinate silence - I was hoping all the time that I might could the next day & the next and all the while pettering over which I have been arbitrary up - & feeling I could start back to all I can - but I don't trust - both at abeyance as you are that I will send to you - here and as I possibly can - to both at and several things & consult you both up & consider & compare them. Just here is one thing about -

Must thank be seen to "to order" in the "California Horticulturist" for Feb. 1880 (Vol. X. No. 2) Mrs. R. M. Austin has, p. 33 - the leader, an article "The Plants - the Mount Lassen". As therein name of J. M. is taken merely family and being I have seen and anti-

cipated my anxious. On page 34, L. hand-col., the 10th line from bottom I read: "I gathered some speci-mens of a grass near one of them [them being bilin kittles of mud.], the common name of which is "Job's Tears" (Coix Lachrymae)" — Now what does this mean?! - I judge, as she was a trampin' and a campin', she was way off from Settlements & things - Near gardens would be Easy, as even here (N.J.) the Leeds Endure the winter and come up from self sowners - Here it around Musi-cars. I think I've seen them near the "tews" for beads - rosary things, and a feller might break the string of his "prayer-book" or beaten lachrymae. May be you can clear up this muddle - i.e. wipe away my tears (O generation of wipes!) - Does Mrs Austin know Job - his tears? - Did she find any Job's Tears there? [or were they somebody-elses stray steers - and another genus - common copiae?] - If she found the Tears there were they not natural - Eyesed? - And if so, should they

The incomplete reference to Munro is Writes Japanese Plants — I have ~~the~~ Munro's MS. of the grasses, given me by Dr. Gray soon after ~~the~~ it was printed — but I have not the Report — ⊖

Mr Watson

FROM
Orange Judd Company,
PUBLISHERS OF THE
AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST
AND OF RURAL BOOKS.
Sole Agents for Crandall's Blocks.
245 Broadway, New York.

Monday, March 1st. Dear Watson —
Please send me the copy of Columna
Grostis Cappoonis. If you have any
authentic specimen of C. neglecta
Hor. Lett — give me a few spikelets.
Your Grostis of 28 ult at hand — Long
then shorten. My idea was to popularize and I know
that novices like to have all possible details. I can make
a diagnosis so brief it will make your head swim. It
isn't because an Editor does it — Themis the alliterator — the
bilers down. I want the matter to suit you. If I don't
make it so, you must. Will send more copy in a
day or two — as soon as I can go over it. Am going
over all the material on hand to be sure I have
all the genera so that the key can be made. If
you have any thing in Festuca — or Hord — etc. let me know.
Speak now, or hereafter hold your peace. Hasta ⊖

POSTAL CARD.

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

NEW YORK
MAR
2 30 PM
80

U.S. POSTAGE

Serno Watson Esq.
Curator Etc. Botanic Garden
Cambridge,
Mass.

"The Pines", Feb. 23-86

My Dear Watson,

I suppose I can best serve you by giving you some copy. So have put in a good long days work at that. If the chips are not big in the mechanical arrangement of matter, when I had no special instructions, I have looked at the first vol. and guessed. As I saw that for the large genera a "Conspectus" was given, of the species, I supposed it would be desired for the grasses, and in deciding upon how large - or small, a genus should be to have this, I fixed upon four - I see that you do not use them, so hereafter I will be saved the trouble of making such. My notion is, that while the Flora should be useful to scientifics, it should be, as far as may be, popular, to encourage people, over yonder, to study botany. and as grasses are just the one thing (after Cyps) that people think very difficult, it was my notion to put in all the little helps possible. But in these minor matters I've no choice or special desire other than to fix things - cure the grass into "Latter hay" - as you would like to have 'em -

In the Calamagrostis - I shall ask some aid and comfort from you.

3. C. deschampsioides you may think comes in - by the skin of its teeth, but I think I have given sufficient reasons why.

4. C. Bolanderi - I dont know how you feel about this seceder from the ranks. I pity the poor fellow

and would like to have him feel that he is not altogether forgotten in his misfortune! I know him to be excessively sensitive, and it may be a help to him. In all the new sp. of grass he has turned up, not one has been given his name — provided this — as I think — is new. There is a whole string of S. Am. species, C. Toluccensis etc. one of which it may possibly be, though the descriptions are of the most unsatisfactory kind. If you have any down-the-coast specimens I wish you would compare this. B. himself thought it was new, and unusual for him — put some notes with it, the heading: "This is my new Calamagrostis" — which seems as if he had written some one about it. It's a beauty! look at floret with strong microscope.

6. C. Lapponica — here's truffness! The specimens — Boland. 4766 & 4787 Bol. seem to me to belong here, though not much like Wahlenberg's figure in Flor. Lapp. (Arundo.) — It agrees fairly with the brief diagnosis of Gray (Acad.). In general appearance it is like my only European specimen — one from Norway, Blytt — but the flowers of that are very young and apparently pretty deeper in drying & not of any help — Please compare with European specimens.

7. C. stricta — puzzles me greatly — If priority rules, this should be C. neglecta. H. Nett. provided that and our plant are the same — Griseb. & Asch., who is fair, and Andersson who is very careful, both give C. neglecta & refer C. stricta Fries, also to it — yet Gray does not refer to it in any manner — Griseb. (N. Gros.) says: Gärtner in Flor. de Nett." Anderss. "Gram. Scand." says: "Eberh. Beitr. 6-137" but I find from Steud. Nom. — that Eberhart had it under Arundo — It is very much of a nice-ture. If the plants are the same, C. neglecta

is the oldest and should be adopted — What bothers me is — Doet. Gray went over the ground and dont mention C. neglecta at all. — If you can help clear up this jumble do so — As it appears to me, C. neglecta should stand for the species — in that case references & synonymy should be as on the accompanying slip of C. stricta.

Calamagrostis is all I can get ready this time — will try & send more in a day or two — or before this is used up.

Fearing you may not have the specimens in hand, I send the two most questionable species — C. Lapponica and C. Bolandera.

With all this — may you be blessed with patience — may you have a merry Birthington's Birthday.

Very Truly George Thurber

There's a high-ates — what I was going on to say, but for some cause didn't. Is this — — and you have no objections, I would like to name it as suggested — But if you prefer not — why not it is. I'm fallen quite in love with the species, think it one of the cutest I ever saw.

Three botanists were concerned in Flor. Nett. — I don't know why Griseb. gives but one. Seems easiest in this case to name no names.

The Pines, March 12th 80 –

Dear Mr Watson –

It merely shows how great minds run in the same channel – When I sent the last copy I had concluded you must be running short of type, and had decided not to send any more until you had the Order & Key –

I see that in Columnagnostic you use the Conspectus – I had made one for Stipa, but thinking it would not be used, I did not send it with the copy for the Genus, but do so now – As to the Ordinal characters etc – I send this for you to chew upon & fix as you please.

I think you will not care for all of what good Dr. Torrey used to call the "twice twice" about genus – If you do not – cut out any or all. As to the Key – I can not send it just yet – As there are a few sticks – Suppose that when you get the Ordinal table & the Key set so that you can tell how much room it will occupy, there will be no immediate hurry about

Sincerely Yours.

Electrotyping - One of the early obstacles is that little grass of Sienis - that "nor-sty" (Gen. Strachey) little Nardoid thing - I took it up just as I was working with Calamagrostis, and was so surprised to find such a similarity in the structure of the floret, that, with "the enthusiasm of youth" - (a hem) and in spite of a widely different inflorescence - I at once jumped at a close relationship - But on further thought, it would seem that the separated nectris, - a character to which systematists give much importance - would send it to Bothrochloinae - or there a thereabouts - All of which shows how enthusiasm in grasses, as in other things is a good thing to have; but don't go too absolutely trust or it may mislead. Now to this Green Grass - It seems to me hard by Ophiurus - of which I have no specimens - Will you help me by comparing it with that Sienis, and the allied ones, and send such material as will help - In sending herbarium specimens I had much rather pay express charges than have you send up to inspect the pretty of the sheet - The some you can send, the better shall I like it. After I get this Kee out of hand, hope to get along more rapidly -

You mentioned that you wished. I could see Austin's copy - I don't need to - The old women have a saying about bad laundry work that a garment looks "as if it were dried on a gridiron and ironed with a fire-shovel" - He is a natural born slosher - and by his horrid treatment did untold damage to the Jersey Herbarium - It is strange that one who has so much sharpness in some directions should be such an unmitigated boor in others. But we are as we are made and I am

Very Truly Yours
George Thurber

P.S. I have written this grass matter rather wide, to allow for all needed interlining

"Pines". March 18th '80

My Dear Watson -

Thanks for the budget of fragments. I have not yet studied them but they will no doubt help settle the hash of Green's scrap-ment. I've worked on this key and if not "perfect" (!) it will serve. It is probably essentially as it will be & will be a guide to the space required. I see I have left out Leptochloa. If I study the thing up now it may delay the copy so I send & will put it in on the proof - Too sleepy for much write - Sincerely yours

George Thurber

Sunday Night - The above was written late Thursday night - I intending to go to city the next morning where I could find suitable receptacle - Friday morning I could not step - a knee as big as two knees & such pain I couldn't think to ask Woolson to send it - and Friday & Saturday - I have other speculations than those of grasses

to Athens to — Yonchet — The poem has
subsided & I can hobble once
more Sung for the Sheep —
Sorry ☹

Samuel Johnson Esq —

The Pines, March 22nd 90.

My dear Doctor Guy –

The accompanying was written this afternoon, and sent by messenger from the City this morning, but I forgot to mention it in my note to you. When you wrote to the effect that Mr O. Flo. had "dropped you" I was both surprised and troubled, but you had prohibited me from saying anything about it & I was waiting for some clue to the matter. Aside from the fact itself was disturbing, as it (assuming it were so) was the first time in which there had been any interference in my department of our action taken without consulting me. The young man who is Treasurer (nominally at least) of the Co. is a comp arbitrarily new-man, and as he had done some things that did not affect me at all I began in a positively new way, I began

Dict. says: "Stenotaphrum, Kunth, meaning unplained" – Of course I know about the stenos, but can you give – or guess towards a meaning of the kind-end of the name? That's what the postal's for – a narrow reply – By the way, the reference to Kth. is wrong. It starts with Fieinus in Fund. Agrost. p. 175 – and any man what makes a genus without giving his reasons therefore – or, as I heard a would be scholard give it not longer ago – without giving the Entomology of the name deserves – to have it ignored – General Plantarum came O.K. – If I go to city tomorrow will enclose q.p. quo – if not, so soon as I do go. So no more at present from

Serenely as ever

George Thurber

P.S. – Have you read of or known of or can you give me any light on the occurrence of adventitious ovules, becoming seeds, within the tissues of or upon the surface of leaves – underlyed leaves in the bud? Have found your Structural & dont know if it is touched there – ⊖ Dont say – "nonsense, it cant be" – for I haven't got said that it does be – But I haven't got through with it yet.

to suspect that it was one of his demonstrations. I am glad to know that it was not and that it was not also an exceedingly rude and ungentlemanly performance that an ignoring - or at least even notifying you of non intercourse would have been. It was so thoroughly unlike the ways of our people that I confess to no little "worrin" over it. It evidently was a slip on the part of the bookkeeper and that's all there is about it.

As to the money - make a mouse-trap of yourself - easy to come in but hard to get out. "We never learn time to take the spinner out of the loop" said the Elephant Keeper. Don't you go and learn any new tricks at your time of life. For myself, I don't expect you to write "measure for measure" - such a hint as that on ~~Jocinto~~ Jocinto is worth more than an article might be - and this brings up the fact that it is vastly easier to write an article than it is to find a good topic. You end yours with "Pray advise me - How are you?" - and I will answer both together - though perhaps Watson will have told you - I have had two days, Friday and part of the most so-called ~~[illegible]~~ rheumatic torture - Rents - I phoned my whittles down so fine that it was a contraction. This has left me with an unfully tired feeling and a bit of a headache - and goes since I sick - All of which amounts one little - and goes to show that I'm in no state of mind to advise you on any one slac, except to say I'm as I have done - I'm sorry the Nibney - and let things both - It is for us this bound - As to book notes - we have so very few - and these generally of a kind that I can hardly make without reading the book, while you would have the read the book - I become prejudiced one way or another. Thinking of books - I suggested a while ago that you might do that a new edition of the manual - don't when you forget to get my notes - Point sermons etc - When any thing occurs to me that you might do I'll let you know - meanwhile you have your canon to "do" and get it. Meanwhile you have by paying "the accounting" over it. I begin this by saying "the accompanying was written" - I might as well point this out. Which it is on this sheet -

Respectfully

Jones & Sp-Gram - Mine is bound in 3 vols, the plates in each vol. put alphabetically! --- HAERKE is not, I take it spelled diphthongically - - I see it both wise in proof.

But here is enough of my bothering of you for one session - - especially as it is now tomorrow - and such a tomorrow! So far as roaring goes, the leonine character of so much of March as this makes - is established

And I am ever yours
George Meredith

By the way - I want very muchly for a sketch, a few grains of Zizania aquatica - Sargent had some a year ago - have written him, but as I get no reply (for he is off again) I - yourself is siezed & possessed of any - pray send some, pref. but only a phew!

Forgot to say that proofs thru, is instalment from you will be made with some haste -

"The Lines" March 24-80

My Dear Watson - It's never too late to reform - Heretofore I have made memos. of this & that to write you, but when I had ready what I must do, it was all too late to write out my notes - then I would promise I would do it next day - but didn't - and so various odds & ends of notes have accumulated that should have gone with copy, but now - such as are of importance - must do with the proofs - The reform consists in trying to not do so some more.

We all of us have our whimsies and oddments in speaking and writing & these sometimes amount to hobbies - Dear Tovey had his, and one of those he so drummed, drilled into, and otherwise impressed upon me, that it is more firmly rooted than if it were indigenous (which may be metaphor)

It is this = one an one half, do not make two. In other words, One is singular - two are plural - A cow and half a cow are not cows. - we can not say with propriety, one and a half inches - because one inch and one half of one inch are not, and in the nature of things can not be - inches. This the good doctor so often argued with me and always beat me, that in all my writing for the paper I say "one and a half inch" - so naturally as her ans - in fact horse-powers & steam-engines could not move me to write anything else, and I make everyone else do so - In writing the gross copy - I didn't try to have it so - for I could not have possibly written otherwise - but in the proof it is one and a half lines, inches, etc. In reading the proof it seemed so natural to do so, that I put it all my way, not thinking that perhaps you felt just as strongly that it ought to be your way. Of course you should have your own way in your own book - if any where. To read the plural in such cases makes me crawl inwardly as badly as to read "there is" - My say on these are said -

In a former age - you wrote that I had omitted reference to cuts, but given few syns - etc. I had the impression that such were to be used but little, through orders from head quarters - I acted on that impression at first, and now since recollected how it all came about. While Dr Gray was at work upon the Flora of N. A. - I referred to the matter of syns & references and he said to this effect. - "Oh very few indeed, scarcely any - I leave all that for Watson to do in his Index" - In the involutions & convolutions of that which for want of a better name I call my mind, I got this remark as to Flora of N.A. transferred to the Flora of California, and acted accordingly - but I'm very glad its otherwise = See reference to Pachyphyllum vaginatum, Dcll. H. Bros. II. 2 I have it not to confirm the odd figures by - also see if reference to Fritillaria Lanc. is right as to date before that. References to Reichenbach Icons. you must be responsible for - In my vol. most of the plates have two sets of figures and sometimes neither comes within some hundreds of those you quote. So with Fritil

Resies April 2-80

My Dear Watson –

No you dont – get me off on the cow question! I sticks to first principles always, and as grass is the first principle of a cow (unless clover is at hand), though I think I did unfortunately take her for an illustration, I decline either horn and go to grass, where I can graze (bail it) better than with the cow – which though sometimes fractious dont fraction worth a cent. What I stands to is this: the way to write a line and half a line is: "one and a half line" – and not one and a half lines. The way to write an inch and a half an inch is "an inch and one half" or "one and one half inch" or "1½ inch" and not "i n c h e s"!

I used to be in the hands of wickedness myself, but good Dvet Jovey so thoroughly beat it out of me, that it grieves my inards to see it otherwise. But as you have probably gone wrong through 1 and 19/20 volumes, for the sake of consistency, you will be perverse the rest of the way – its human nature – just ask Dvet. Guy how its

the old one to be "Killed" –

I agree with you on the desirability of a short character, and we shall only differ, perhaps as to how short, or what may be left out. This C. Lapponica, as was, illustrates how two will look differently at times – If one were to look at these specimens without knowing the flowers, the one thing that would most strike him is, the swollen (or swelled-out – how do you spell it?) upper sheath – he would recollect the plant by that. Yet that is the one thing that you did not think important, and so omitted.

C. neglecta, I shall have to hack down on – The specimens you send show that our plant is not C. neglecta, Goertn – whether it really be C. stricta, Fries. is doubtful, but I haven't the documents to settle it, and it had better stand as Gray left it until we know more –

The glued down C. alamayrostis you sent a while ago "No 3. C. Sylvatica", Bot. may be an undeveloped C. Alentica, but it is quite too young to be anything – so apt to puzzle –

But it is almost 2 o'clk and I'm awful sleepy –

Very Truly

George Thurber

is - and if he wont decide, try Prof Rierce on the profound prob. [You no where directly say so, in your notes or on the label, that that — yes - you do say so in the note - its the label that fails to keep the chain of evidence -] Can it be possible that any one who ever saw Leachorynnae jobis in any shape, could think that this nastiest of little Ranis was they or that? - That is about what the average of feminine voting amounts to - Old Job would'nt have made much of a puddle if he couldnt cry any bigger. Coiy must still keep outside of the Golden Gate - But to our Mountains - I send Calamagrostis, the last of the proofs in hand. When I looked at the conspectus, synopsis - analysis, or whatever you call it, I could'nt make it out. I thought you or the printer had mixed it lovely, but on referring to the copy, I found out whose the fault was. - Modesty forbids me to state - It was all alongy of a wrong indentation. I rewrote it as it should be, as easier than trying to fix it on the proof - It wont involve any re-setting to speak of -

C. Bolanderi. I want your ear a minute on. Bolander in his catalogue has C. varia, and in trying to find some clue to what he meant, I found in his "Names of Cal. Plants (1866)" under 6471. "C. sylvatica. Dc & Sp. near C. varia". As 6471. is the number for what I have called C. Bolanderi, this is no doubt the C. varia of his Cat. The "Names" I take it were printed to be cut up for labels, and then in a pamphlet form can not be quoted as a publication. If he has sent this out as "species near C. varia", it should be so noted, I think.

"C. Leppoviea" - certainly our plant is not this - While I hate to make another species, if do not some other chap will, and as I cant make it fit to any name, that gives it one. The most striking thing about it is its thick and ~~[illegible]~~ extremely firm glumes, - how would ~~poethylepis~~ Do for a name? or crassiglumis? Can you suggest any better? - The other proof had wider margins for alterations & I take that, adding a new Brev. Pl which will require

Rec'd Feb 1916

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"Pines" ~~New York~~, April 7 1880.

My Dear Watson —

Just as I was leaving the office this P. M. en route for the Wilds of Jersey, I was halted by the Telegraph Messenger. I'm very sorry for the bother I am in part the cause of. You know that at first the finding of the minutest of rudiments in that grass of Green's put me on the scent of a relationship with Eculumagnus & I thought, when making the "Key" that it should fit along there & left a place for it. Lenten & Sun its Bott-O'Belly-accousness, and as both Bentham & Hooker - all along of its gouged out rachis but Lepturus etc, along side of Hordeaceae, I concluded it would be better to shove this over there

As where Septurius goeth so there
or thereabouts should this also go.
I should have written about it,
but didnt. Hence all the bother
for which I am sorry. But that
makes it none of the less annoying.
I hope you understood my telegraphic
reply, which was, that the genera
on the galley proofs were properly
numbered, and this No. 6. of the key
is to go always towards the end.
I sent you Stipes a while ago &
have forgotten whether you acke-
knowledged the same or not. I
have just copied off Chloridene,
hit a bottle with a Leptochelva
presents sending tonight. Did
you meet with or do you know
of any annual Leguminosa
called "Buffalo Bean"? said to
be very showy.

Very Truly
George Thurber

Pines - As it is after
12 - I can say May 1st

Dear Watson -

Am glad you are to have an outing - and will do all I can to help you - I didnt stop to think whether you put up Dnet. Gray to writing me or not - Could not have cared if you had. I dont go a hunting for trouble. I know you are worried and I dont blame you. I've done my part to "disgruntle" you, but not willingly - When you were here, I told you that I had matters so arranged at office that I could stay at home most of the time & work at grasses - It was too good a thing to last - For reasons - a week or two after your visit, it became necessary to send away the person upon whom I depended to do the work that would allow me to have my time to myself! Here was a pretty kettle of fish! I did not tell you of it, as it would add a needless ~~thou~~ worry - But I went to work and

did what I could - I have not had 4 hours sleep on an average for months, and half the time that has been taken in my chair - I could not neglect my paper work and remain - I have had to do certain work for the paper and such grass work as I could. When your letter came the other day. I made an appeal - I could not ask for a clear leave of absence - for I knew I ought not to, but I did stipulate for not going to office but twice a week for the next month. And I will do all I can to clear up the grasses - I have been at the small genera, so that should a squeeze come it will be in one or two large genera, where we must do the best we can - The coming week should show where we stand. I send you a lot of copy which does for the small genera in Destrucence except Glycerin which is pretty done. Beyond Eutonia (44) I have not numbered, as some are taken up out of course. Speaking of numbers - I found I had omitted Eriocoma which made the numbers of the of the "Key" right - but now I find I have left out Leptho-Cloana - and they will be wrong again after Dreliea, next to which that would naturally go. I return also the proofs received today. I am bothered over the Bryophyrum - I find it most do to trust to anybodys work without verifying every important character, and every now & then some little hitch will use up time painfully - I have written out some notes on the Bryops - and wish you would ask Dutt Guy's opinion and average his with yours and send me the result as to B. Douglasii - For the other, you can fix the copy when you have settled priority - As to old Raffis name - if he gave no good characters, why should it be taken? Dr. Dixon used to say that Raffis could make genera & species without seeing the plants! -

So no more at present

Very Truly

George Thurber

"Pines" May 10 – 80 –

My Dear Warton –

You proofs come out this evening – and supposing that they were the most pressing, I by reading those must put off sending a "sweat" of copy until tomorrow.

"Distichlis maritima"
"Var – spicatum;" should it not be var. spicata?

Opposite Eragrostis capitata there is a ringed query (?) – the meaning of which I don't understand.

In giving collector's names some are included by ( ) and some are not. So far as I can see this omission is where the name ends a sentence – If this is the rule then Brewer under Sophoclanus should have them –

The smallness of the hour accounts for the size of the note. Truly

Thurber

Paris – May 12 –

My Dear Watson –

I send you Melier Glycerin and a part of Fertrieu – I know you will howl over Melier – I dont care! I'm desperate – It has given me more trouble than any other sip genera – Mr Balunder had never touched it – Half the species are not Meliers – I've made a section – lest I come to grief – Dan copied it once I – it ought to be copied again it looks like Sin – I dont believe I could shorten it much by rewriting – not so disgustin to the species – If you can see a way to alleviate

it - fond - Dont suppose you want
the Conspectus or key? - but I made
one for my own use = Hope
to get out of the woods soon now.
- so if you are going to bound
improve your time - its only 4-
oclk A. M. - I promised copy
today but had to go to City today
& to keep my promise kept it
up until morning - and aint
I just sleepy? Oh yes -

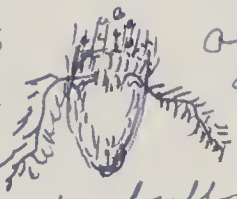
Truly Yours

"Paris" - May 12-13-80.

My Dear Watson -

"When shall my troubles have an end,
Thy joys when shall I see" or
words to those effect - I hinted
at what a wretchedly unsatisfac-
tory time I had ~~of~~ over the Me-
theglin. (Metheglin is a drink made
from honey - a drink is a liquor;
Mel - is honey. Melica - is Mel-
liquor, consequently honey - liquor -
consequently Metheglin - q.e.d.
For 3 o'clock in the morning that's too
bad!) Well - to start again. A
set of plants - grasses so to speak -
which Bolander & the rest of
us have hitched on to Melica,
hang there just because they don't
fit anywhere else - Slop-loose-y
as Doct. Gray would say - I have
put them in "array" - They don't
belong even there - but at this
stage of the game we can't
bother. The very worst one of

grass", is the highest kind of
devil-operment (as Agassiz used to
say) - What for do Bromice have
that hairs on the top of the
array? - Bromus ciliatus, &c.
has its array with a dense
brush of stiff shiny hairs
$\frac{2}{100}$ of an inch long &
it is chock full of pollen-grains -
moreover the stigmas are supposed
to get below of this sheet
of pollen - It means some-
thing - what? - Ask Doct Gray
why this is thus - and I am
As ever Truly
Mary Thurber



Have these having
ovaries been observed
& helped of by any
one? -

that marks indicates the writer fell asleep

the lot — the one coming in by the derma of his dentition — was M. acuminatus, Bol. That putting the thing in Melica was bad enough — but Scribner itself to putting it into Bromus as the "Fisher Professor of Nat. Hist. of Harvard University" went & did —

Had a turn today on the Bromices (Plural of Mus is mice — of course the plural of Bromus) and I find that "Bromus subulatus", Gray (schedonorus (but why?) subulatus), Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. 1872 — 410 (Falls Oregon) is just and only that self same Melica acuminata Boland. — in Proc. Cal. Acad. !!!!!! Doct. Gray says that it "seems to belong to Bromus rather than to Festuca — "I so not seems to Festuca" — ant. Griseb. Ledeb. Fl. Ross. ~~Gibelin~~ a more detailed account than he has done for any other gross. Sure one (2 thinks), and yet with all his doing, he never did the "innards" All "characters" for the genus Bromus include a hairy ovary — and the

Stipes inserted below the tip. This B. subulatus is oh very hairy! — as much so as the hull of grass sez! a regular hi-comrade type it has — Sez — but a little — Point is here — smell of a hair! — But the grass? — He begins what shall he do with that in Melica, Gray, is a Festuca — Bolander stuck him in Melica, Gray says so too — & don't he Bromus! it, and Doct. Gray says so too — & don't he — him Doct. Gray looked behind the Bull-cings. Bull (is) anchorly fitt where If he leave him to his Bull (is) anchorly fitt — If he asked — If he now is, the Sin-on o' me mind he ask, like Dunbar tube him among from thus, he will ask, he will see that such Nebsite "When should 2 go?" It seems to me that is pleasing a character as a hair, a get up that is too important It that genus (and some denied from it), is too important to be blinked at. Please ask Doct. Gray what he thinks of the case — Dunnigan "Dust of the earth" Kn thinks of the case — "All flesh is grass" — Keep the grass — Keep pinches: "All flesh is

n. 4669 R. Nine valley

Pines - May 18 - 80

My Dear Watson -

I send you the End of the Gruss copy, but ~~that~~ the last of it.

You have here - Bromus
Ceratochloa
Sclerum
Triticum
Hordeum
Elymus
Gymnostichum

which last I think has no more claim to Generic distinction than Sitanion - did it depend upon the California species, I should unite it. — (and Eastern)

But Hooker has turned up a New Zealander - & that may make a difference -

I didn't put in Leptochloa for I have no specimens of L. Brlundezii, Thurb! Which I pray you to send me in one form or another ~~weight~~ off!

In hunting among some old Mss. I find that in 1865 - I named a set of grasses that B. was to sell - He never gave me a set

of them — Septurus Bolanderi was among them and thus it comes that I have it not! — But I find that I kept my original notes — and may I be made into hay, if I don't believe that Septurus Bolanderi Thurberi — is that same nasty little grass of Gruns!! — If it is, I'll pay some one 25¢ — to kick me!

You must have all of B's sold sets — Please look — If S. Bolanderi is the Greenish-thing you need not send — If not, of course I want it — Besides Septurus — there remain, the end of Festuca (nearly ready) Atropis (pretty done) and Poa.

By the way: Bolander has a Festuca labelled "F. gracillima, Hook. Sierras, 8000." not even a ? — to it — The original was from Sto — Magellan & is published in Antarctic Voyage, to which I have not access — It agrees fairly with the descr as quoted in Stend — Bolander at one time sent some grasses to Munro — Could he have got the name thus — or did he take it from descr — in Stend — I wo-

close a specimen — Keep what you can without to most trouble — This came in the last lot of stuff Ends of Bolanders — you sent — With such calm thus is a (nearly) fresh-full of hay — Sadness lives — 1½ lbs of dried mind! So no more as French pen

Very truly yours
George Thurber

Pines - Sat'y A. M. -
Airly - May 22 - 80 -

Dear Watson -

Proof will go by today's mail - I tried to send the End of Festucca with it, but that must wait a day. Good for F. graciliima - I am confident it is the plant as I will manifest unto you when I send copy. The bits of Gymnostichum are just G. aciculiformum, Bol. Thanks for the drawing, as it shows that Hooker attached little importance to the Bottle-brushiness of the spikes. Thank you for lick-ing mel-licker into letter shape -

Very Truly

Thurber

WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE—THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

Sereno Watson Esq.
Curator &c.
Botanic Garden,
Cambridge,
Mass.

"Pines" Lutry P. R.,
May 22d – 80 –

Dear Watson,

I send with this the end of *Lestrea*, which I could not get ready to go with the proofs. The hinging is continuous with the former lot containing the 1st part of *Lestrea*, and not with the last, in which I began anew with p. 300 –

In sending *F. gracillima*, Hooker, you thought it did not look much like Balfour's pres., while I thought it was very close to it. You probably judged from specimens of general appearance – Most of B.'s specimens were young with the spikelets closed and cylindrical, and I probably sent such – Then the larger arm gives a different look – I am often reminded of the pleasure Good old Torrey used to take in quoting at me the Hudibrastic couplet –

"Unfortunately for the science,
Upon the arbor there's no reliance"

In Balfour's specimens I find arm and armless floets on the same

plant – even on the same spikelet –
The indoors ones will show strong differences – Besides other very strong resemblances there is that of the 'collis' at the base of the plant – I had noticed it in B's plant, and when yours came it was the first point I looked at, & there was the same get up – It has a peculiar cup-shape, more strongly marked than I have seen elsewhere – Then there is a similarity of type – of feeling – that makes me quite sure that it is safe to regard them as the same –

Very truly
George Thurber

Office
Monday – May 24 – The alone was begun with the idea of visiting at Passaic, but Madam did, that he surely does, next to the village, without letting me know of it –
With this you have all Inds 5
1st Some amendments to Key –
2d – Septentrio – This is waiting to add to Bolandia which a note from Eaton, just read, informs me is sent, but has not yet come to hand.
3d – Poa –
4th Atropis.
When I get to Bolandia I can not doubt settle that genus and amend the Key, in a few hours –
I had got my heart on finishing up everything by the 10th – but, through

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New-York, Wednesday 26 1880

Dear Watson — Had to come to city today — wish I had not — mercury 90 at Greenpoint — Country chocolate — all drying up — If this holds, no strawberries — no peas — no nothing — Its simply fearful — yesterday after working out the Lepturus matter had to give up — Its no use in such heat & dryness! Lepturus Bolanderi I got from Eaton — It is the same as Green's troublesome little grass. What worries me is, that I should have worked over so strange a grass in '67 — and forgot all about it in '80 — It is a complete puzzle — — moral — I never will, not never — no more — work at any new grass unless I can keep a specimen, or sufficient as a memorandum — by which to identify the same — Had I

done so in this case it would have saved much worry - and vexation of spirit - Still I insist that the resemblance of the floret to Calamagrostis, coming to my notice just as I was studying that genus - is sufficient to throw anyone - even old Palisot de Beauvois his - self off of the track - and if all the new genera had so good a raison d'etre as that, I should be glad -

Thermometer at 90000000 -
put your points in where you please

Truly - Thurber

With this is Mss. for Septuria - Bow & Atropis and amendments to the Key - and it may be another amendment, in all not remaining -

O

Pines. June 1st

My dear Watson - On one of the hottest days of the year - Thursday I think, I took one of the heaviest colds I have had - great stricture across the chest and a threatened attack of some - serious trouble - For two days I had to keep flat - right down sick - That's what's the matter - I send proof of and additions to key - Hope I have made it plain - Will try to send the end of copy tomorrow - There must be at least, some publishing pons left = no matter how many years one keeps at them -

By the way - If not too late - please look at Sophocleus Californica & see if I quoted

that name of Torrey - quoted
by Steed - Depitomus & Blemo-
pyrgus A.B.Sm. It just occurred to
me that I didn't -
I'm sorry to be so wicked as to
get lands up just at this time,
but I didn't "go to do it" —
Academy - Spruce - lots of Philo-
no henlyth - I don't know
nothing, I haven't heard of any-
thing - Some of the men men-
tioned are always where their
names will get in the papers
long side of some body as is
somebody - "John Smith and Alp-
Humbolt are present" etc etc -

Very truly Thwaites

Pines, Tuesday Night
June 15 — '80 —

My Dear Watson —

Your proofs which I expected on Saturday did not come until yesterday. That list of Buttutt's "Bona Andina" shows very plainly that it is just the everlasting Atropis Californica! Hum — This set me to hunting up a set of Vasey's P. Andina, of which (not recognising the diversity of the thing) he has made no end of varieties, some of which he has referred to in Wheeler Report — I have quoted yours as a syn — which, if the same as Buttutt's it must be — The thing I sent the other day from Nt. Dana may be the same, but of that I'm not confident — I find two species that I can't match with anybody's Bona, or Glycerin or anything — They are too big to ignore — They are more Atropoid than

anything else - I hate to do it - but I dont see what else I can do but stick a name to them & let them go in Atropis - The one I have called Scalariba was in with a big lot of Lophocleuna, and apparently got in by mistake - I hope some one will get more of it - for never before heard of a pulescent lizzie! —

Now I've a tip top chance to laugh at you - and did I not know my own weakness I should go for you!

You say "Is not this grass of Bufton from Humboldt County the P. alpina?" -

Well! well!! I thought you did know old Holcus lanatus!!.

There now! If you ever poke fun at any of my blunders I'll just say "Holcus!" and then will you cease, and shut up, and hold your peace forever more - P. ~~alpina~~ !!!!

W-h-a-w! —

As to Rosa bemsoni. I had the impression that I had seen it somewhere, but not being able to find it I left the reference for you to supply - Have hunted again in the Agr. Depts Reports, where he has had some talks (and some awful blunders) But I find after all that I had in mind a ms. description. and as I dont believe it is in print I have cut it out -

Who is Bufton? - Is he one of the Bumboos - say - is he? =

You might as well send proofs as they are got - but not wait for a return - I may thus chance to catch something, though they - the proofs - have been so clean, there is not much probability — But it is very late & I am very tired —

But Truly

George Thurber

Pines – Friday Night

My Dear Watson –

Your postal came to night – I have been right down sick & since I sent the "Key" had a relapse & until today have been miserable and useless. I think I told you that on one of the hot-test days I somehow took a violent cold – It developed as a sort of sub-acute bronchitis – bronchitis & the thermometer at 90! couldn't lie down without choking – choking! to death! – Well – I've been to work today & here are your poems & atropos – There are some more poems, if I can do anything with them, will send – but I don't expect you to wait –

It's too late to say more – though I did have a laugh at myself! having accusing to look back at some old copy I find I have rewritten Zachis all along. I believe every one gets pet faults in spelling – Some years ago I wrote in big letters & put it up on the wall where I could see it from anywhere in the room – ei – I had got in the way of writing Recieve – If I stopped to think I was sure to reason that ie was right – So I stuck up ei – where it could be seen – to the great mystery of all in the house – So ~~Naphth~~ Naphtha bothered me for years – & I always – as you see above, boggle at it now. – It is one comfort to know that "we are all poor critters" – But Zachis is just too bad –

Oh – I intended to ask before – Have you any idea of what is meant by Poa brachyphylla Schult – Bot Cent – p. 34? – If it is a sign of any I have seen, please add it – If some other species pray tell what – But too late for any more grass talk – and I'm tired of grass for tonight Cousin Lucy

Lucy

Moreover – have you in hand – an authentic Jessica Richardson's book? Please compare the bit sent – A few bits were in with Melissa – (someone) from Mt. Dana – It now turns up among the last odds & ends – From the plate it is something like

that J. Richardson without his
pulsene — Oh! — aint it an
undeveloped what you have called
Brandina Nutt? — mick: what?

Serena Watson Esq.

Pines. July 5th 80 –

Dear Doctor Gray –

Much work and excessive heat so used me up that I had to go off for a few days. Else you would have had these grasses sooner. As it is I celebrate "the day we celebrate" by giving you some notes for them. It is the best I can do for them at present. I haven't H.B.K. & the Rev. Gram. and can only get a peep at them by making a journey to the Astor Library. But I find it's after 2 o'clk in the morning, and I must defer several things I want to say & ask until I next say "I'll see you later" – another time.

Cordially

George Thurber

New York July 6 – 80 –

Dear Watson –

Page proofs at hand

In running them over hurriedly 2 notes, –
p. 322 – under Ceratochloa unioloides,
note – "Brome de Schrader" – Cut out the
final 2 – to read Brome de Schrade
which is the French popular or
agricultural name –
But worse – probably my fault –
The section & Vulpia is made under
Festuca, but none for Festuca proper
Cut some of the talk under F. microstachys
p. 317 – be cut out and in § 2 be put in – you grip it?

Yours
A. Gray

S. Watson Esq —

from Prof Gray.

"The Pines"
July 15th 1880.

Thursday

My Dear Doctor Gray -

As melting as the temperature is, I will try and dispose of two or more partially answered letters -

1st As to Demmon's Grasses - one which you wished me to "toot sweet" - With this weather how can one "toot" at all? - I did them as soon as possible as I have been driven with proofs work - Notes herewith - Parcel goes today (tomorrow) by mail.

Apropos of Schaffner, I am bound Potosi - You said he would send more - Pray put him up to it - He is in a good spot and gets things that dont often turn up - Pray cultivate him - or allow me to do so -

2dly - Do you suppose that I can get the Grass vol. of Flor. Aust. separate from the rest? - I like to see what Bentham has to say about Genera of Grasses - and miss the work very much. Should not have much use for the rest.

home - I much wish you may bring about a visit -

7th Cy - and I think lastly - Have you anywhere an engraving of the Mahwah - Mowah - Bassia latifolia? - Or failing that a specimen that is figurable? - Apropos of that - dont you want some of the commercial flowers for your museum? If I had the leaves I suppose I could break out the flowers - though the form of inflorescence is lacking - The flowers look much like poor raisins - Analysis shows 63 percent of sugar! - Would like an early reply about materials for a figure of this -

Excuse length - Heat expands some things, but not my letters -

Ever truly

Wm Shurtleff

3dly – As to Mex. Bound. Grasses – I for some reason did not col. lect very largely of these – my fondness for them having developed since. I supposed that I gave you a set of all my plants, at all events such was my intention at the time – If you look in Stipa & find one so near like S. pennata that you can not tell the difference that will be an indication. As to whether I gave you my grasses or not. As to the rest, those of Bigelow, Schott etc. were in Doct. Torrey's hands; what has been the final disposition of them I do not know – I had them to study up for the Boundary Report (which was never published) and all but a set for myself were returned. This was while Doct. T. was in St. Marks Place – & before the Columbia College move.

4thly – Watson wrote me that he wished me to return the State Survey Grasses (Col.). I do not know whether he referred to those he sent, collected by Bolander, or whether he meant the whole. I rec'd two lots from Brewer, and to make all square should speak to B. about it – However, that is a matter that I need not trouble you about, I couldn't possibly attend to the matter just now & it will do when Watson returns –

5thly – Have you any idea of when the 2d vol. of Cal. Flora will be ready?

6thly – What are your movements to be this summer? – will they bring you this way at all before fall? – Why I ask is this – Our Mr. Valentine would much like to have you make a visit at Houghton Farm, and has asked me to invite you. I should much like it if you could manage to get a day or two for a visit there, as it is a most delightful place in the nto of Orange Co – He is not like some men of wealth who lionize people – It is a really intelligent family, without any show or ostentation. Good New England people of the best type, and in all their ways and surroundings eminently plain and home-like. I go no where that I feel more at

all came upon me so suddenly that I have hardly got as the old women say "a realizing sense of the situation".
I dont know if you are acquainted with Doct. Miles. He was prof. of animals at the Mich. Agl. College and my most intimate chum while I was there & afterwards became Prof of Agriculture. When Mr. Valentine proposed to devote a part of his farm to agricultural experiments I was set the task of finding him a man to run the thing. I was glad to be able to secure Doct. Miles. He has been here a year getting the farm into shape for work and greatly to the satisfaction of Mr. V. In fact both are much pleased. A short time ago Mr. V. wrote that he thought I would be the better for a trip to Europe and that the Doct. needed a vacation. I replied that I couldnt well leave the paper and just then could not well afford a trip. The next words from him was a telegraphic message. "The cream of the rooms

Paris Aug. 16-80.
Mentone

My dear Doctor Gray.

Rusby's grasses came, preceded by your "Who is Rusby anyhow?" He is a young school-master who belongs at Franklin, about 6 miles from here. If by "Who" the conundrum had been "What is R." I should have quoted an old uncle, who in his classification of human kind, had one set that he called "The devil's unaccountables" — the Leguminaceae, as it were of humanity, into which went whoever didnt fit elsewhere. R. is provokingly good natured and well meaning — would run his toes off to oblige another, and think every one else willing to do the same for him. Has a smattering of various things and rather spoiled by the deference of those who know nothing. He is one of those chaps who grasps at problems but has not the least definite idea of structure. He sends me a grass with the florets all gone. I blow him up for first collecting

such stuff, and secondly for bothering me with it. tell him if he has any more such to burn 'em - He writes back, "I like abnormal curiosities as well as specimens". I dont know what started him off to Newfoundland. I told him it would be folly to make such specimens as he did at home, as people would not buy or take them as a gift. He is just one of those impracticable and impracticable chaps that hang around - He reminds me much of Jorey's "Old Holton", only H. knew lots, but always had it where he couldnt use it. But why the chap should be bothering you? - Now I have the grasses, I have no words from as to what shall be done with them. I hoped that going off and roughing it for a while might knock some of the nonsense out of him. By the way he is the President of the "Botanical Society (I am not sure that is not Club -) of Northern New Jersey" - Ah ha! -

Now here is some news - and I take a fresh page for it. I expect to sail for Europe on 2d prox! - You wrote that you should go Sept. 1st Do you sail from Bos-ton? - Or is it the great good luck that you too are booked for the Baltic - White Star Line, from N.Y.? - I though I might go to Providence for a day or ~~two~~ before sailing, and could run down and see you for a few minutes, but I dont see how I can, with much provision for leaving (not to take but to leave) in the shape of copy & things - If you do go by ~~steamer~~ same steamer, all right, If you dont, please let me know where I can run across you - Do you run about any before settling down at work or do you go to Kew at once? I much wish to see you to get advice about persons and places. I have laid but few plans as yet, but it is necessary to do so in order to make best use of my short time. It

Aug 16, '20

on the Baltic for Sept 2d is
Engaged for you" - I then
hear from Doct. Mr. that
he has been handed a letter
of credit - ample for both - Mr.
V. wrote - "I am going to take the
chances of saying that you &
the Doctor must go - and I shall
look about for some way to
reimburse myself in the letter
work that you will do on the
Agriculturist and on the farm"
- or words to that effect. I
dont think he would care
to have it known, and I
mention it to show what kind
of a man he is - handy to have
in the family.
As to the California grasses - I
cant well send them before I
go, as I must label them &
I have them put together
and marked for Cambridge
so that should any untoward
thing occur, they will be sent
all right. Several - those I
now think of - of the new
species did not come in

the State Collection - and I
wish to make this set - for
your, Completes - I will do
it, the first work when I
get back - and if I dont get
back you'll be just as well
off as if I sent them now.

I expect to be about six weeks
abroad, and see a little of
England, France & Germany - per-
haps some of Belgium & Holland.
Agriculture and horticulture
are the objects - sight seeing
after the tourists manner - only
as may happen.

Let me know what your
plans will be as I wish to "inter-
view" (not for publication) on
short time - meantime if you
think of anything I should
do or see, write a mental
Arena of it (a-note-an-out!) for
my benefit - With regards to
Mrs Gray I am
Sincerely as ever

George Thurber

Thurber

Paris – Aug. 21st 80

Dear Doctor Gray

Thanks, bouncoup much for your très very amusant billet doux – The object of this is to ask if the 2d vol of "Flora of California" is printed or being printed? –

I wish to get the sheets of the grass part – one copy – if no more is possible – Let me have a vol – and I can sacrifice the rest – or put them aside – Or get the printer to work me off half a dozen sets of that grass part – I to pay of course – If Houghton, Mifflin, are the printers, I can easily overcome any objections that may be made – as Mr V. is the capitalist of that shop also – My notion is this – If I could have the matter

with me. I might find time to confirm some doubtful points at Kew & Elsewhere –

If this can be done – i.e. furnishing the sheets, without taking any of your time please have it done.

As to our ways – The Baltic, on which our passages were taken, met with a mishap before she left the Mersey, and had to go into dock for repairs – Her place and passengers were taken by her twin steamer, the Republic, of which the cabin plan appears to be just the same, and we – if nothing prevents – sail by her on Thursday, Sept. 2d –

The present plan is to leave at Queenstown and give a few days to Ireland – Whether we shall go to London by shortest route, or make a tour through Wales first, is not yet decided. At all events we shall reach London soon after you do – I shall expect to find you at Kew, but if there is any change in your plans, please drop me a note to care of Baring Brothers, Bankers, London.

What I meant when I said I would like to get names etc. was this – I would show you a plan of route, and ask you to suggest who might be seen at the places that I had not thought of. This can be done when I meet you over there. I would see all the useful gardens and such. But that will work itself out – Bulstrode is here waiting to talk proper matters – As ever truly

Gwynne Thurber

Can you tell me when Sargent will be back?? O

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New York, Jany 4th 1881

Prof Goodale.

My Dear Sir —

A note from Doctor Gray, which comes to me in a roundabout way through your kin. Halsted — is to reproach me for not having sent to Bentham the 2d vol of the California Flora. Be — B — is at work upon the Grasses for Genera Plantarum, and wishes the vol. especially for that purpose. I am glad to learn thus indirectly, that the 2d volume is published. Will you now kindly tell me who has charge of the publication in Watson's (as I infer) absence? Perhaps, assuming

that the Vol. is published, you had better ask whoever may have it in charge, to send me four copies, and say that I will account to Watson for the same —
I do not know why I should bother you about this, except on the principle that "one good turn deserves another" — You have been troubled to forward Doct. Gray's note, and one turn more is to help me to know about the volumes. I feel less hesitation about this matter than I should were I not always ready & willing to serve you in any such way

Very Truly

George Thurber

If books are to be had, please let them come at once to this office by Xpress — G. T.

The Pines –
Jany – 7 – 81 –

My Dear Watson –

Glad you are back – Happy New Year –
Woolson showed me your note and I was amused at the idea that I was still in Europe, when I came home in time to vote! And you didn't!! But a note from Doct. Gray at Kew taking me to task because I had not sent Bentham the 2d vol of Flora of California – the first intimation that I had of its being out! – I thereupon wrote to Prof. Goodale, and he will no doubt turn my note over to you. I am in a tight press of work for a day or two – Going again time – and as it is nearly 3 o'clk. A.M.

I'll postpone any long about the grasses until I get a chance to take breath and not so tremendously sleepy as just at the present write. Hope you gathered a good lot of hay —

To be continued

Very truly,

George Thurston

P.S. I recd (just before I requested Prof. Goodale, in your absence, to send one from copies of the 2d Vol. of Cul. Flora) from Dr Gray at Kew, a brief note taking me to task rather sharply for not having furnished a copy of the Grasses to Bentham, who is just at work upon them for Genera Plantarum. One of these copies I intended for Bentham. But before I send it, I would like to know if you have not already sent to him, or to the Kew Library? Also how is the least expensive way to send such a work?

G. L.

Pries - Feb. 7 - '51 -

My Dear Watson -

"For this relief much thanks" (Shaks.)

Some ~~ts~~ time in the past ages, I wrote you - in re - ~~Wm~~ Frank Cal. Heard nothing - then some more nothing - finally the nothing became so intense that I began to think - then it occurred to me to try and think if I could have written anything to which you could take exceptions and "pass off on your ear" (a popular phrase now - a days, but what it means I have not the least idea.) I could not recollect anything that looked like opposing your wishes, and should have written to learn why this intensity of silence, had I not seen Any found it con-

venient to wait a day longer -
Today I get your postal of
4th and by same mail comes
a note from Brewer inclosing
yours to him of Jan 14 or 18 (it looks
like 18) - B. wrote that he thought
he had answered, but to his "chagrin"
found your letter that day (8th)

So that matter is cleared up -
and I have no time to write
about details of distribution - and
on some other matters, which
must not be taken up after
midnight. So more hereafter
from Very Truly

George Thurber

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"Pines" ~~New York~~, April 1st 1881

Dear Watson -

To show that I am not dead - and have not altogether forgotten your request, I inclose two samples of paper-lace - The same is in rolls - The white is 30 inches wide & the thin 32 inches - Rolls run from 50 to 100 yds - at 5¢ per yd - This is merely to report progress - think I can do better - will try & report soon -

Truly Thurber

ORANGE JUDD COMPANY, PUBLISHERS, No. 751 BROADWAY.

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New York, April 4th 1881

Dear Watson -

In this, the second trial, I think I have about exhausted the resources of this small - though - The paper is 30 inches wide - runs about 80 lbs to the roll, and may be had at 4 cents per pound - If any of the samples suit you - do not hesitate to command Yours (who if he is in haste can always attend to such errands)

Thurber

I shall know these as 1-2-3 - Second Lot -

to drive me to Cambridge the day before I left, but unexpected visitors upset that - So I inglariously gave up my vacation visit, from which I expected so much pleasure, as a miserable failure - and sneaked back home via Providence, where I tarried but a part of the time that I had intended.

So you have a full account of my short comings.

Now for some business items that I should have transacted in person, had I seen you. Sometime in the past ages you sent me four copies of the Flora of Cal. Vol. 2 - One for myself, and three to be paid for at $4 each = $12. I am heartily ashamed that this has stood so long unsettled, but having had a miserable

"The Pines"
Sept. 28th - 1881.

My Dear Watson -

Among the wonders of this present Century stands the fact that you have not given me "Hail", with an added spice of "Columbia" - For I have been shamefully neglectful, from your stand-point, though from mine, not a bit so, but all the while a sweet enduring martyr. This past Summer (not by no means yet past) has been a misery, a living death - a dying life - so to speak - take your choice. When your last postal came, it found me flattened out. I laid it aside for future attention.

- it got overlaid with other things and when I came to it again I said unto my self - "I shall be down there in a week or two when I will answer it in person." Knowing that the meeting of the Rotmologues would come off soon, though that was later than I then supposed. Prof Sargent had already invited me to stay with him. By hard scratching and sitting up o' nights, I cleared off my paper work so that I could attend the meeting and then have a good time around and about Boston, including Brookline and Cambridge. But I just over-did the thing, and my fatigue from over-work just found my weakest place and went for me in the shape of a rheumatic foot. As a consequence, when I reached the Hub, on that bright morning, Wednesday the 14th. I found that Boston pavements and my foot did not agree - In fact I could hardly walk. I managed to get to Horticultural Hall, where Sargent met me, and seeing my crippled condition insisted that I should go to his house at once. This I did - and it was well - The next morning I could not leave my bed - ditto the next. After this, for two or three days I oscillated between the bed and easy chair, and it was well nigh a week before I was in full possession of my "pins". Meanwhile my meeting had come and gone - my time for returning had come. Sargent had arrang

back-set in money affairs, I could do no otherwise. Inclosed is a check for $16- this which is to cancel the $12. and to pay for one more vol. (of 2°) which please send at your convenience. If my recollection of the account is not correct, please let me know and I will adjust. Now about your "Indep". I wrote you that I had begun to copy it. My sudden departure for Europe put an end to that - so I did it up and marked it to be returned to you in case I should forget to come back. I know that you need and ought to have it - I also know that having copied about a third, I should much like to have the rest. I have no claims whatever, why I

28 Sept 1881

should keep it a day longer and will do whatever you say - We still have such torrid weather that there is no comfort in working at night. and I have no other time for such work - Perhaps the best way will be for you to set a time when it must be returned - If I can meet that - well - If not I must send it uncopied. Knowing the value it must be to you, I feel that you have been patient beyond measure.

I find I have written a long yarn, but you know that it is not a frequent occurrence - And I am. Very Sincerely Yours

George Thurber

through and will return it very soon. By the way — as to Bentham's Gramineae. Dont he stir up things — as with an Elongated pole! In order to the better understand him, I have arranged my Grass Herbarium according to his classification. — Whether the genera will "stay put", I cant say. Some things he has done please me greatly. — As to some others — as the gamblers say — "I dont see it." — But after all what a wonderful old man he is! I am so glad I had the pleasure of seeing him. Do you suppose I have forgotten your Index? I have at last finished it, and hope to return it, with interest very shortly — so soon as "interest" can be computed. — Here's a chance for you to guess what I mean — I dont guess, but know that I am very truly — George Thurber

Now as to "Matters and Things in general" — I had arranged before the beginning of the year to take a sort of half vacation, that I might distribute the California grasses. Just about that time I had word from Bennon that he would send me a lot, and soon after a proposition from Engelmann that he would send me his own Cal. etc collections, and I thought best to await the arrivals of these. Both parcels came in due time, but Engelmann in sending his, proposed that I should take all his far western grasses, return him a named set and do as I pleased with the rest. I was just too glad to accept this offer, as I hoped permed to know something of the material thus offered. By

the time, I had got the Cul. Survey collections & the lot from you (more or less sunny - but generally less) all together and the lots from Lemmon & Engelmann, at hand, and I was ready to go at them. There came a stress of book-work, which I had to do, and which so overworked me that I became really ill - in fact "gin out" - not only my old friend rheumatiz, found me out, but I took a hand in that miserable bleeding, which whether from the lungs or the bronchiae (as all say mine is), is altogether the most disgusting, depressing, disheartening trouble that mortal man ever had. The main remedy is quietness accompanied by long doses of flat-on-your-back-ness. Well having fairly worried through all this, I found myself, as a matter of course, in a "jam" with paper work - having now worried nearly through this! I hope to begin my grass work early next week. Please let good Doct. Gray see this explanation, as it will save writing him much the same, as to the reason for the unlooked for delay.

I shall have to consult the Cambridge authorities as to labels, etc. but it is too late tonight. I asked the Doctor to "lend me the loan" of the last number of Icones Plant. which Bentham quotes so frequently. He replied that it had gone to be bound, but if I "still wanted it" he would send it on its return. I do "still want it" - first to run it

Pines, Oct. 12th – '81

My Dear Watson –

First came yours with a grass; as I was about to write to ask what part of this habitable globe it came from, your No. 2 (Oct 3rd) came, incidentally saying it was from Oregon. I think that this is Calamagrostis Howellii, Vasey in Bot. Gazette, Oct. 81. p. 271 – Although it is rather small as to foliage etc. – Did this come from? – For once, I think that V. has made a good species. Had not before seen it.

To-night I am too pressed to answer in detail your queries – chucked in your last – will get at them soon. Since I returned from Sargents' have had another set-back, or rather lay-back with rheumatism, which, on the principle that

a "clearing-up shower" is usually the most violent, I trust may be the last of the season.

Apropos of Vasey. Are we to adopt the English grass nomenclature for spikelet parts of, as he has done? It makes no difference which, but it is not well to have two sets of names laying around for the same things.

But no more just now

As ever

George Hitchcock

it is not necessary to wait for these, it would save time to go over them while one's hand is in. I had already written to Brewer and others concerned about making up the Cal. flora in sets. The material consists of: 1st Brewer's own collections. 2d a collection made for the Survey by Bolander, 3d — a lot sent from Cambridge by Watson, consisting of Bolanders mainly, and some from Lemmon, Mrs. Austin and others. Besides, there is a large lot, not collected by the Survey, but which I have received from correspondents from time to time during these many years. These of course I should make use of in the making up of sets. I am sure that I could do the work more rapidly and satisfactorily than another. My idea was, when I began at it, to take

"The Pines" Nov. 24. 81
Which it is Thanksgiving
Day — or rather night —

My Dear Doct Gray —

It seems like old times to see your letter, which would have had an earlier reply had not an absence of a few days intervened. I take this day to be properly thankful for the safe return of yourself and Mrs. Gray — though it is much sooner than everybody expected.

As to how I am — I can say much better than in a long time. I had a pretty acute attack of rheumatism at Sargents', which was a sort o' clearing up shower, and with the exception of one attack just after reaching home, have been free. I am

glad Bentham has made a genus for me - I had rather it would be among the grasses than elsewhere, and only hope it may be American. When at Kew, I wanted to ask you to drop him a hint to this effect - as he had set down one, he might set up another, in the grass line - But I thought it would not look well, and now I am glad that I did not do it, as I appreciate all the more the voluntary act of the good old man - now 82!

The Experiment Station to which you refer, had not so much to do with seeds as with fertilizers. What you have in mind is the Connecticut Experiment Station, formerly in charge of Prof. W. O. Atwater at Middletown, Conn. but now the Director is Prof. Sam. W. Johnson, New Haven. I think its work is confined to the Laboratory, but Brewer who is connected therewith, can tell you all about its work.

I do not know the object of your inquiry, but if you wish careful experiments with any particular seeds, I can put you in the way to have them well done - Doct Niles would be exceedingly glad to do any such work at Houghton Farm.

As to the California grasses - you have made your proposition and I will give you mine - or my plan - with the premise that I am not set in my ways, and am most desirous of doing that which will best meet your wishes.

I should have been at the work before this, had I not had word from Engelmann that he should send me all of his recent collections, and a few days later, Lemmon wrote that he was just back from an expedition and would send me his grasses. While

a vacation, and do the job right up. Aside from this, I have a little pride in the matter; my constant occupation on this paper has caused me to be but little in active botany and I wish in this way to serve my relations with botanists and societies. I am sure that I can make you a much more complete set than to merely send what belongs to the survey; in some cases the varities were not collected by the Survey at all. I think, as Watson suggested, I can do it all before the New Year. I hope this view of the case may meet your approval.

So it is 71 - is it? I am glad it is no more. I was a little startled in Sept. last to

find myself 60. Then I remembered that Mrs. Gray told me that she was of that age, and she is very far from old. We are apt to think of our friends as they were when we last saw them. So I think of you under a burden of shawls, surrounded by the gems of the Louvre! What a wilderness of art that is. Went to Geneva, found no De Candolle, but the funny little place where he lives, and the most rubbishy of all gardens. Had a few delightful days in Switzerland, and what Mrs. Gray hoped we might have, the finest possible view of Mont. Blanc, though that of Jungfrau from Interlaken is fine. Had a pleasant day with Rothrock at Strasburg — Du Bary, of course, away. Thence to Mayence & down the Rhine to Cologne. From there to Flushing and across to England. A week more in London and its vicinity and home in less than two months from date of departure.

Halsted was here today and helped us with the Oriental bird disposed of by all true New Englanders. What a good fellow he is. He wants a place where he can devote himself to botany, and I hope such may turn up — Don't forget him when such occur.

Make my best wishes known to Mrs. Gray — The Woolsons are well, with two of the healthiest and brightest children extant.

And I am as ever truly

George Thurber

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AMES, IOWA, Dec 22d 1881

My dear Dr. Gray.

I am delighted to know that you reached home safely, and trust that the break in your work (for I know that you worked so hard that I cannot call it a vacation) will prove beneficial to your health.

A thin paper, narrow-margin edition of the Manual would be a most excellent thing to bring out, and if the geographical space covered could be enlarged, or changed somewhat, it would be still better. It has for some time appeared to me desirable, on many accounts, that our Manuals of botany should be made to recognize the natural divisions of the North American Flora. Thus there should be (1) a Manual of the botany of the Atlantic States for better an Atlantic

Flora"), (2) A Manual of the botany of the Mississippi Valley (or the "Prairie Flora"), (3) A Manual of the botany of the Western Highlands (or the Flora of the Great Plains and Rocky Mts.) (4) the Pacific Flora. As the Atlantic region, and the Prairie region are so much alike and run into each other so gradually, a ~~the~~ manual might very well include both, as the ~~[illegible]~~ "Eastern and Prairie Flora". Could not the enlargement of the Manual be made to conform to these general lines? I have been examining the question of type, and find that a "pearl" print dictionary in my library (Meadows) is perfectly legible. A page in such type, 3 1/4 X 4 3/4 or 3 X 5 would contain fully as much as a page of the present Manual. The ~~and~~ whole work on thin paper would thus be about 4 X 6 inches and no more than one inch thick, certainly a very portable size.

I fully concur with you that "a synopsis with characters reduced to a few words" is not satisfactory. The Manual ought ~~[illegible]~~ not to be made smaller in this way: we need to have

"The Rines"
Jan. 12th - 82 -

My Dear Doct. Gray -

Dont think hardly of me because I did not reply to your last letter sooner - I had determined to say nothing, things had gone so adversely with me, until I could say that I had got at the work.

I hoped to distribute the grasses before the new year, but Halsted had arranged to go off and we could not well be both away from the office at once. Then a vexatious rheumatic attack occupied me all Christmas week. I at last got a start but the trouble and hope that nothing may intervene -

for it is speedy & plain.

I expect very soon all of Engelmann's accumulations of several years. As he gives me carte blanche to do what I please, I think there may be pickings for you.

Read Bentham's paper — what a wonderful old man! I see that he dont accept Vienna. Gruning Kutt and Scleraehne Forr. is the gives you would not remember as Hysterin.

But it is late — hope to report progress soon and am as ever

Truly George Thurston

(1)

The Pines, Sats-
April 8 – '82 –

My Dear Watson –

These many days I have wanted to write you, and this evening I take, to try and square accounts.

The recital of the troubles of other people is rarely interesting, and I will not dilate, but merely say that the past winter has been of a kind, the like of which I hope not to see again. If you have never had haemorrhage of the lungs, bronchial "doins", or any other part of the human "bellowses", you can have no idea of the mental effect, the depression and utter demoralization it induces. While I am told that there is nothing the matter with my lungs, and I don't think there's – there bleeding – that have come from time to time, with alternations of rheumatism in feet or knees,

thanks for this prolonged use of the "double", and hope that what I send back will at any, in part at least, off-set the great delay.

So with the grapes sent some time ago; in order to give any satisfactory reply about one, at least, I had to dig through various memo. books and loose memorandum to find my notes made at Kent. A job of this kind takes time – just that which an overworked citizen has the least of – however – I trust that the sending of the parcel will so far square up matters, that we may begin on a clean score, and I sincerely hope that I may – I at any rate will try – be able to respond more promptly than I have recently done.

With sincere regards and best wishes I am

Most Truly

Geo. Thorler

have not left me without amusement during the past winter and are a sufficient reason for all short comings in the way of correspondence. So also about my distribution of the grasses, I had only got the material together, my various bundles and a big lot from Engelman as well as smaller parcels from Lemmon and others, when I was utterly flattened out, – not figuratively but – me, myself, bodily – For the potentest remedy in this "nasty" (fem Strachey) bleeding business, is flatness on the back, and as much quietness as possible – just so soon as I get a book job (office) out of hand, will go at the hay now again – It's not so very much. If one can get a few unbroken days –

You sd collect Index Gramineus, which I found so useful when at work on the Cal. grasses. I had begun to copy before I suddenly went to Europe. I did it up in a paper and directed it, in case I did not come back, to be sent to you. Since then it has been difficult to find time to finish the copying, but it is at last done. When I said I would return it "with interest," I had in mind this – Upon receiving Bentham's paper on the Gramineae, I found that in the absence of an index, it was of little use. I made for my own convenience, a sort of conspectus of the genera, showing his arrangement, and also a list of the genera, with the synonyms. Thinking these would be of use to you, I copied the first of these myself, the other, I had copied by a young Hollander in the employ of Woolson & Co. He executes quite too fine a "fist", but so far as I have looked at it, I think he has done it fairly well, and I think you will find it useful to direct you to the synonyms. I send many

"She had to be!" — It's nothing suit
wasn't on hand, and he probably
bethought him of the Methodist
hymn — "Just as I am" — I imagine
that the lady was equally unprepared,
as the second day after I heard
of her going to the city to interview
a dress-maker. As to H — he has
married into a good home, as he
has gone to the house of the old
people — The old gentleman, having
eased his mind and clinched that
bargain, seems to be refreshed, for
I saw him a few days after En-
joying a sleigh-ride in a man-
ner quite unlike a dying man —
I can't say for the other side,
but the old gentleman might
search far and long and not
find so good a son-in-law —
This bit of gossip is added in
part for Mrs G's delectation, to whom
and yourself the best regards
of Sincerely
George Hooker

A letter a few days ago
from Hooker, thanking
for microscope. — You asked if Valentine
had failed — not a word of truth in the report,
which probably arose from his retiring from the varnish
business.

"The Pines"
Passaic, N. J.
Jan 29 — 83

My Dear Dwt. Gray —

On Saturday the
20th I went to the City, but
by noon there came up one
of the most disagreeable storms
imaginable — If I waited to meet
you, I could not possibly get
home until after dark, and
a ride in such a storm being
bad enough in daylight, I
reluctantly gave up the meeting
with you and went Jersey-ward.
I much wished to see you
as we have not met since we
went abroad to add "foreign airs"
to our "native graces". Some one
has said that we always think
of our friends as we last saw
them. According to this, my mem-
ory-picture of you would be —
surrounded by the master-pieces
of the Louvre and toting a
large armful of cloakery

and shawlery — Those are long words, but anything is better than that intolerable modern innovation — "wraps" — which I just "despise". — Well — I went home that Saturday, leaving you to get across the Hudson and the City as you best could — and put in a good job of work on the grasses. I think I see my way out pretty soon now.

For the past week both Halsted and myself have been badly driven.

A change was made in the time and manner of making up the paper, and to conform to the new order of things, required — for once — much extra work — which is the why I did not write sooner —

I must tell you about his marriage. It was fixed for the 23d day of this month, and invitations — or notifications — for that date had already been sent to some far-western friends. About the first part of the month, I did not go out much, and as it was

that we should have an interview, it was arranged that Halsted should come over here on the morning of the 7th and I would send him back in time for church — accordingly I sent the carriage over to his boarding place — when it returned instead of B.D.H., it brought a note from the same, asking me to excuse him as an "urgent appointment" had called him in another direction. His prospective papa is a sort of brevet parson, such as the Methodists have. The dear gentleman was very ill, much more that morning, the prospective Mrs. B.D. was the youngest and last unmarried child, I had married all the rest of his children, Mrs Frenich he should not live to perform the office if a grandchild not live to perform the office. In fact off until the 23d — so if Bunkie was willing, he prepared to turn off the job then and there and he and dis in peace — Mrs Bankie willing? — When the German lady, he was asked if his wife was resigned — his reply was —

"The Pines" June 4th 83

My Dear Doctor Gray.

When I wrote, a while ago, that I would remit for Gen. Plants, soon after pay-day, I had it in mind that it would come around on the Saty. next following. Not I was a week ahead of time.

Herewith is check for $7.75 - with many thanks for your aid and abet-ment.

What is this you so obscurely dont tell me about Engelmann - but hint. Pray let us know about him. He is of a make that is likely to depart suddenly.

Have you seen Mackloskie's Botany? I've had no chance to read, but the cuts, some of them are the worst I ever saw. If you can make out fig 33 - p a contempt for the Gremms - and called them "Leaton's hay") But no matter, if I am to take your advice to not sit up late. Hope mrs. Gray has recovered from the effects of the journey and I am

Yours Truly

Thos Meehan

Bonnie, I reciprocate readily and am at present letter than before, save that I get tired sooner. This is pleasant. The Pneumonia has intruded with this delaying with the hay-making. When you view my plans for hay-making, I should take a vacation for I feel you that I should work the grass-drying as soon as some pressing work's division was done of hand. Now I must admit the return of the head-ache of the concern. He goes off for a couple of weeks on his own outing and is especially desirous that I should not hold any during his absence. Then I hope for my turn. I feel that I can "punch him up". His I can assure you that you are not alone anxious than I to have the hay turned into fodder. (A dim allusion to that to Whittall. Why, Jonny said, had, or proposed

59. you can do more than I can.

As to myself. A few days after your visit, I had one of the attacks of haemorrhage that have come about every two years for the last 15 or 20. This was not so severe as others, and did not last so long. Still it weakened me considerably and essentially upset my plans. My physician attaches no importance to these attacks. He has listened and "cussed" both per- and dis- and cannot find no organic defect or other in my "bellus". Probably the rupture of some ~~miserable~~ miserable little vessel in the bronchial doings. The worst trouble about these troubles is the mental. Do what I will, and reason with me-myself- as much as I may, I cant get rid of the most unpleasant mental depression. It's nothing like alarm, or anxiety. The sensation is best described by the Yankee "goneness".

"The Rhine" Saty night
June 23d — '83

Dear Doct. Gray.

Though distressingly busy, I must take time to give you a hurried account of Engelmann, knowing your interest in him. He wrote me, last week, of his intention to arrive in N.Y. on Tuesday, and to sail on Saty. (today) - I at once replied, asking him to so arrange his time as to make us a visit - Later on Tuesday P. M., I called at his hotel; he had not arrived. I left a note for him, saying that I should not be in the city on Wednesday, but if convenient to visit them, to call at the office, and Halsted would bring him out - When I reached the office on ~~Wednesday~~ Thursday A. M., I found E. there. Such a change! Halsted, who

(4)

time to reach the ferry, and being one hour ahead, were able to go very leisurely to the cars. After these were reached, it was a long time before he could carry much. After we reached home, he was audibly exhausted - he kept him very quiet - but after dinner, at which he could take only a plate of strawberries & cream - he set his own choice graces, and some other plants in which he is interested, appeared to revive him greatly, and for some minutes at a time, he would seem to be quite himself, not at loss for a name, and singing upon little chances with his old time acquaintances - This walk, through not long, tired him - He had a seat in an easy chair after it, saying nothing for a long time - and apparently quite "played out"

had seen him (2) several times before, said that, had he not been expecting him, he should not have recognized him — I can hardly say that, but he was greatly altered, having a haggard appearance, so unlike his former jovial self, that was painful. The talkest very philosophically of his own case, said that he had heard disease, possibly fatty degeneration, etc. — At times he talked and seemed lost. Then he would brighten up, and he almost like himself. We had called to say that he could come home with me that evening, and wanted to know when he should meet me. Thinking it would be better for me to meet him, for it really did not seem safe for him to be going about in such a hot day, alone, I arranged to call for him at

his hotel. I called for him (3), but he kept me so long that, to meet the ferry boat, it was necessary to take the Elevated R.R. The stations to these, you know, are reached by stairs. I started to give him my arm, and help him up, but he requested me to go ahead and let him "take his time". He made the ascent very slowly and reached the top just in time to take a train. Seated on the car, I saw that he was quite exhausted. He groaned with each breath, threw back his head, rolled his eyes, and acted as if he were about to have a fit — or something more serious was at hand. I began to fan him, and he at last gasped out, with great effort — "let — me — be". After a while, apparently suffering great pain, he was able to talk a little, and tell me that the pain had subsided. Fortunately, we had abundant

The sight of some Japanese books, also books on Japan (Sieb. & Zucc.), to which he evidently had not of late had access. Occupied him for a while. He did not care to retire early, as he was afraid he could not sleep. He went to bed about 11 o'clk. My sister showed him to his room, and told me that going up the short flight of stairs seemed to greatly exhaust him. The next morning he was allowed to lie as long as he pleased, and came down about 8 o'clk, quite bright. We breakfasted together & he took a short turn in the garden. We have a horizontally banded green and white plant, from Japan, that has been supposed to be a Juncus, — possibly a form of J. effusus. He in the morning found a bit that showed flower — that of a Carex. His delight at this, and the glee with which he saw me put it

showed that he was greatly disappointed. — Still — it is perhaps better for S. that he disappoint come, as he would have been greatly pained to see the present condition of a friend so highly esteemed and loved. —

& started for a brief note, which this is and — I hum which to start the early as it looks to me — helps this visit proves a marked change, & fear that our wonderfully centrifugal has done his botanical work, and while & hope we may see him again, it would not be surprising to learn that the end had come, at any time. —

Very sincerely

George Thurber

23 Jun 1883

in press for him - (May he return to get it!) was the only occasion on which he really appeared like the Engelmann we used to know. He took a train towards noon for the city - was to go aboard the steamer that (Friday) evening, as she was to sail at 7 o'clk on Saty. (this) morning. His visit, sure so far as it, now and then, quickly gave him something of interest, was far from a source of pleasure to me. When he drove off to take the train for the city, I bid him good bye, with the feeling that it was for the last time. The scene on the cars of the Elevated RR, made me feel that he was liable to pass away after any unusual exertion - Indeed, the exertion there was by no means violent; the stairs very easy and he went up as slowly as he wished. With every one, time was his. Many occasions in travelling, on which he will tell for more active exercise than this, and I should not be surprised to learn of his sudden demise at any time. I am glad that he is accompanied by his son (I wish to be pleasing) and daughter-in-law - I am much as a physician and daughter-in-law, and am sorry that I could not see the son, and learn what he thinks of his father. By his going abroad with his father, it is evident that he regards the case as serious; indeed, I think it proper of him (the father) I should not attend at any time for him to be unattended at any time. I regret that Lagrent could not have come to N.Y. as had been arranged. E. evidently had not only expected it, but received this letter to his not coming in a manner that

The Pines, July 14th-63

My Dear Watson -

I am very sorry for it, but it could not be helped — "It" meaning the delay in answering your last. It came when I was very ill, with my occasional rheumatic attacks. Being a postal, it ~~[illegible]~~ readily got out of sight in the matters that accumulated while I was laid up, and I only got around to it this evening.

While my collection of grasses is pretty full, it is weak in numbered sets. Not being able to purchase plants, my sets of Wright's and other collections are fragmentary, being made up of such remnants, and memorandum bits as I could spare, with ~~some~~ few

gray. But I have no complete series of any of the numbered collections — and more the pity.

Before I attend to your numbers and queries, let me return a little of your "sass". Yes, you don't need an "introduction". Watson — Thurston — Thurston, Watson — Shake! — There, that being over — let me say that there is no one for whom I would go further to oblige or whom I would more gladly help than yourself, and for this reason I am especially sorry for the present apparent neglect. Now to biz — I am now so crowded with some work that must be done, that I can not spare even an hour or two to go to the bay now, but will within a day or two endeavor to answer your questions, as to numbered grasses, so far as I may be able. But this delay has that "worried" me, that I was bound to write a words of apology at any rate, and let you know that though just now driven within an inch of my life, in the words of Dan. Webster, "I aint dead yet" — More soon —

Now sincerely

George Thurston

"The Pines" - July 26th '83

My Dear Watson -

Do you believe in fatality? I do, as Beecher says he does, in the doctrine of total depravity - "when judiciously applied". There seems to be a fatality - whenever you ask me to do a bit of hay-making for you, that some miserable thing will prevent. Just as your last came, there was a flutter about my going off to attend to some matters which the concern thought I could arrange better than one of themselves. In the hurry of getting ready, I had to lay yours aside.

That matter being disposed of, and I am settled down once more, I take up your queries before I get into the work harness again.

As to the Chlorideae in general, I have most of the genera in pretty good shape, but our

friend Bonteloua offers some hard places, as you have found out. I send herewith such notes and bits as I think may help you. Dont imagine from the miserable interruptions this time, that I am not willing to help you where I can - I shall be very glad if you will allow me to look at a grass now and then - I cant afford to buy, but if you can get me bits of any of the new collections you are at work upon, I shall be thankful. Sorry to hear such a bad report from Bentham. One of the pleasant incidents of my visit to England, was to be able to congratulate the grand old gentleman on his 81st birthday - and to have him give me one of his books on that occasion - Doct. Gray must let up - he is not the wrought iron man he was 20 years ago -

Very Sincerely

George Thurber

"The Ruins"

Passaic, N.J.

Dec. 18, 83

My Dear Friend Doctor Gray.

It is so long since I have heard from you directly that yours, which I found on reaching home this evening, met with a double welcome.

You begin with Xmas greetings, I leave personal matters to the last, and take up business - that of a dealer in hay - and "Latin hay" at that. Even in that, I move in inverse order, or - as we military folks say - approach it "left in front".

Firstly, as to "the great collection of grasses to be distributed". - Finding that no other course was practicable, I have, for some time, had matters so arranged, that I could "put in" one, two or three hours work on them, of an evening, or as occasion allowed.

that is a vital point with him.

If I found a new grass, to call it Demmonii, the repetition, and the remark ~~that~~ of one who met him, that he was an "infernal beggar", did not impress me favorably. Still - whatever his motive, he evidently has perseverance, and that should go to his credit. It is well that you are his friend - he evidently needs such, not being in the way of gaining them for himself.

There! I have fallen asleep several times in writing thus far, and as it is after two o'clk in the a.m. will postpone my "personal" talk to another time. Will get through Le's grasses soon -

The holiday greetings and good wishes, are returned with emphasis. More hereafter -

Ever truly

George Thurber

Morning - Had I time, I would re-write and not send such a sleepy note, as it is an imposition upon good nature ☺

Progress has been satisfactory; at one time I hoped to finish before the end of the year, but for office (not official) reasons, find that this will not be possible. Still, the work is going on. Now as to Bemmon's grasses. You give me the first intimation I have had, that these were part of sets to be sold, or that the enumeration was to be forwarded to you. I had no idea that any special importance attached to them. much less, anything so specious as "bread and butter". Better use apple sass, it is better for the health than butter. I intended to devote a part ~~of~~ of this evening to the distribution, but when I found your letter, I decided to give the time to the parcel of Bemmon's grasses. I found, upon going over them, that I had, a long time ago arranged them ~~[illegible]~~ in genera, and for some reason were then lost by. It can hardly be that these are the whole grass stock for his distribution? I supposed that the specimens were for me, in return for running them. The species run from one to half a dozen specimens each, though in some cases, by dividing, more might be made.

The collections being made in California and Arizona, I know the most of the species by heart; still - there are some that will need study, and it will take a few "spells" to complete them. What I propose to do is, to give the evenings to, that would otherwise have been devoted to the "distribution", to the plants of Bemmon, get them out of the way and allow Lo. to get some butter for his bread. In running over the specimens, I dont think that I can (and am happy to say that I cant) hitch Bemmon'i, to any of them. To judge from his letters, in which he begged - not to say importuned me,

"The Pines" Dec. 27.

My dear Doctor Gray.

Xtmas Evening I made a magic lantern show for the children, took a turn at Dominoes & grasses, and very late started to write you. I had not proceeded very far before I found that I had understated too much and in view of the fact that I had fallen asleep several times over a previous letter, I thought best to postpone writing and take needed sleep.

In my last I suggested that I would write later on some personal matters. I do not like to intrude my private troubles upon you in this holiday time, but it is right that you should know about them. The matter may be summed up in a few words. My present position at the office is almost intolerable, so much so that, were it not for the fact that others are in a measure

him about as if he were a mere clerk. The position is one of thorough discomfort - praise, at rare intervals, can not offset constant indignities and grumbling. He often alludes to expense for editors and estimates our work by length, or quantity, and tells us how much he used to write when on a daily paper - I need says no more to illustrate the discomfort of my daily life, and my only motive in doing this is to let you know that I am on the look out for something better. Did you not know this, you might learn of some desirable thing and let it go by.

But here is sufficient in the way of an infliction which I hope I may not impose upon you again -

Sincerely as Ever

Θ

My McKinnon pen is cranky - hence these blots - ~~luckwymac~~ perhaps -

dependent upon me, I would not endure it for an hour.

When Mr Orange Judd was at the head of affairs, it was very different. In most respects there could not be a pleasanter position. He did not know much, and was aware of it, and was ready to defer to those who did know. He had a real respect for acquirements, and if editorial work was done, I could go and come as I pleased and nothing more was asked.

Since April last, Mr O.J's brother - David W., has been President of the Company and autocrat in general. He knows less than his brother, but is not aware of it. He has not a single qualification to fit him to conduct an agricultural journal, his chief occupation is, to make all around him as uncomfortable as possible. I am expected to be at the office every day, to the great waste of my time. There is no proper Editorial room at the office, where one can work in quiet, a lack of needed works of reference, and an entire lack of comfort. Though I am nominally the Editor, he assumes control in that department as in all others; he engages articles without consulting me and does everything possible to make my position - and I may add, that of everyone else in the office, thoroughly uncomfortable.

You may think I am prejudiced and exaggerate. It was only two days ago that Halsted, one of the best tempered and most charitable of mortals, said to me: "It makes one sick to look at that man. Three years ago (when he came to the office) I would not have believed that there could be a man so mean and despicable. It is the first time I ever really hated any one". That is about the esteem in which he is held by every one, down to the smallest shop boy. He is not partial, for he swears at his fellow officer - the Secretary, and orders

"The Pines"
Feb. 6 — late Enough
to be Feb. 7th '84.

My Dear Watson,

Your postal came yesterday & could not recollect any *Oryzopsis Oryzana*. But waited until tonight to see if the herbarium gave any clue — which it does not. Therefore that ~~too~~ which, ~~for~~ the want of a better name, you call your brain (as Doct. Gray sometimes says), must be at ~~fault~~ fault.

The only thing approaching thereunto is any *O. Exigua*, which I named in the report of Wilkes Ex. Ex. It was founded upon two or three little "snipments," which had usually to be blinked and squeleched. But I had to do it. With I could help you arrest that "wandering" of your brain, but cant.

Kindly say to Doct. Gray that

I am well nigh broken down with much work and late hours. Hope to have, after this week, at least a chance to reply to his last ~~the~~ not doing of which has caused me some distress.

Sincerely

George Thorler

copy finished, if I could possibly, but not to your inconvenience. — Another matter — Sometime ago you proposed to charge the copies of the 2d vol. of Cal. Flora to yourself to cancel my indebtedness, and in some measure in the way of compensation: I think I see myself letting you pay me a single cent for work done. If the State — or some other person or thing, abundantly able is ready to do the handsome thing and come down with the dibs, like a chap "what spends his money free", that's one thing. I'd make my bow and pocket the chinks, — but for you, who whatever you had, did not get a quarter enough for yourself to pay me or any other feller, the first "Sow-market" (I dont know whether one that is marqué is better or worser than any other Sow) — why thats one of those jobs that can't be did! As to the Sow — just as I can get around that very sharp pecuniary corner

? What news from Dept. Surv.?
? Is Hooker back?

"The Pines" May 1st 87

My Dear Friend Weston —

I know an easy-going person who makes it a rule, not only to never fret, but even takes "no" anxious thought upon a failure to receive a letter when he thinks he should have one. He reasons thusly — When he doesn't respond, he knows that he has a good reason for not writing, and when others do not pay their epistolary debts to him, he is willing to suppose that they have an equally good reason. If we could all be thus even keel-ed, how lovely we should ride over the "bounding billows" of that sea of what-d'ye-call-ems, that, for want of a better name, we call life. Now if you had only been able

to hear and see what has been going on with me for the last two months, or so - as through a "telephonoscope" - you would have said - "poor miserable headrater, what's such a life as that worth living for - any way?" I didn't do that, because getting discouraged is'nt the best way of getting out of a tight place, but I never had more abundant temptation. Having our office made a physical cataclysm, enough of itself - but various changes in almost every part of the paper, which none but an insider would notice, at first so greatly increased the work and turned things end for end. That I wonder how I got through it all - and dont see how I could have done so but for the efficient aid of B. D. H. - What a perfect brick he is! - Lastly - I've been threatened with a rheumatic attack which came several days ago - not so bad as some, but enough to make my pins far from efficient organs of locomotion. This evening, sitting up can hardly be regarded as a lapsy - - - As to your index - when I went off I did it up, marked it with your address, with directions for it to be sent there - to, in case I should tarry beneath the dark salt sea oceans waves and in the caves of the "ocean bear" - Finding how useful it had been to me, I thought I might copy it before you returned - you were not get-at-able, and I could not ask permission - but not thinking you would object I went at it - copied to the end of 2 - & had to switch off - Now then. If you say send at once - it shall be sent - If you can name a certain time you can give me to finish the copy, I can judge whether it is best to try - Its no use to argue the point, you know the value of such an index to me from your own case - I would like to get the

that is always to be weathered the 1st of May, with insurances and 49 other expenses that will come first then. I'll send the documents or pone-dustum.

Another thing. I didnt altogether forget having extra copies of the grass part of the vol. but I could-'nt exactly learn how matters were going, and then I suddenly went off myself, and it went by.

Who owns or controls the plates? I have a plan in view, but have not broached it yet. One of the principal men in our concern is also heavily interested in Houghton, Mifflin & Co. — Mr. Valentine; he is also very much interested in Agriculture and a very public-spirited person in every way. My first thought was to get duplicates of the plates cast, on account of the buying; if that were thought too expensive, some other way could be found. But before discussing

May 1887.

details; or proposing the plan to Mr. V. It would be well to know if the plates could be had for printing 100. or so copies or for making duplicates as may be.

As to this point or any other relating thereto I shall be glad to have your views and advice.

And now - Whether your accusation is in earnest or in fun, or something atween the two - hybrid so to speak - please observe, that I do not have "rows" - nor yet do I get my "back up". Aside from being of quite too saccharine a temper to indulge in rows, rumpuses, riots or rebellions, a proper respect for the proprieties of my age prevents me, as the German says from "getting up my back". An elevation of the dorsal vertebrae would not be becoming the venerable dignity which I strive to always maintain - Moreover - having no other wife, I've married the Rheumatism, and whenever I seem negligent, it will be safe to ascribe the eloquent silence to domestic difficulties -

Very Sincerely George Thurber

Passaic N.J.
Sept 16 –

My Dear Watson

Who sells, or to be more precise, offers for sale the Flora of California? (Botanical Report of Geological Survey) of course if it will be of any benefit to you to purchase it of you, I should prefer to do so – Price? Can it be had in New York City? I have caught a wild native botanist, and have recorded of Sarthe. The one I have is a woman not only in enthusiasm as a collector, but as a student. She seems to get hold of the right handle – we can write out the complicated squirrelling of our plant, and also its interbreeding and send to him a new sort of botanist every trip. This one is a Daisy a Bell – the other of them I have had, but have not seen – yet. She is a schoolmistress and I don't take much stock in them as botanists often being our – Jessy! I think, that you was trying to make out!

Some English journals are very nervy. And on a few weeks ago, I learned that you were at work upon a new edition of the "Manual". I made up the fly leaf of such work, notes and comments for a new ed. Nearly, as the course of time did I see Asa Gray – The crude from Manual is not large. But for the school & field Botany,

There is a much longer list. The most important for the Council are the introduced & naturalized grasses I mean genus Cynosurus, and one species Holcus mollis – If there is time, shall I write up the notes, and hand you, up as good sight for Cynosurus.

Glad that you are down for the Journal of the Botanical Society of some Professor or Lecturer. Can you tell me Dr Chapman is still living? Anything about Rothrock?

Bush I am only a complete amateur. If you get hold of any grasses give me a chance. When do Mrs Gray?

In poor quill pen don't write pretty

In haste

Sincerely

George Thurber

"The Pines"
Passaic, N.J.
Oct 25, '89

My Dear Watson,

Some persons have a sort of mania for giving letters of introduction — I have not, and rarely give them. Never, unless I think that the person to is about to receive will probably be pleased, or benefited in some way. The young man in whose behalf I made inquiry as to the Calif Botany, and mentioned in terms of commendation is off on a vacation at his native place Amherst, where they have done more in Theology, than they have in Botany. Per fore he returns, he visits Boston, and makes a pious pilgrimage to Cambridge to see the places made sacred to all botanists by the life and work of Gray — The feeling which impelled him to ask an introduction to you, is in accordance with that right way of doing, which I have noticed with pleasure. As you may wish to know more about him than you can learn in one interview, I would re-late that his father is S.C. Nash, of Clifton, about as far from Passaic on the other side — up the Railway — as this is on the opposite direction. They are engaged

P.S. —

Kindly remember me to Mrs. Gray, with the most respectful regards

J Hunter

in forcing roses for the N. Y. Market — Boston does not permit all that are needed — Those who have seen them, say that they have a well appointed, well built range of houses, and that all about them has the aspect of thrift and prosperity. As for the young man, he appears to have had only a high school education in one of the more-worthy cities of N. J. In my career, I have met with many who have studied, or thought they did, Botany. I have never before, in all this time, met with one who seemed to know how to study, to go understand the use of tools.

It has been to me such a refreshment; and such a wonder — that I hope you will agree with my estimate of him. That is about all you will care to know of his pecuniary ~~wonder~~ and all that I know of it myself. He comes of good stock, his grandfather, I knew as a professor of chemistry years ago at Amherst. In those days Chemistry was in the day of small things — and as he was a good kind man with his theology all right, he managed to survive — But I have tired you as

Ever — as ever

Thoreau

(over)

Bouteloua trifida, Thurb. in Gram. Mex. Bound ined.

When I made my notes on the Bound. grasses, this name was given to Wrights' 2022. The name, not a very characteristic one, and suggested by the striking "trifidity" of that specimen, was accepted by Bourgeau - to whom I sent all the Boundary specimens, with a note that he had called it in Herb. Benth.

Eutriana Wrightii. I think that Wrights 749 - 752 - 754 - 2020 (=polystachya) and 2021 (=polystachya) are the same; also Berlandier's 167 (=Hirtiflora) and 1427. I do not recollect that Vasey has published a B. trifida. The plant so labelled by him, in my herb., collected by Palmer, is just your other specimen, "B. Jeperii" S.W. I dont think I have published the name anywhere - Do as you please with it. B. eriopoda, Torr. is very different as you will see from the fragments sent, especially in the cottony tuft at the base of the spike, which is conspicuous even in the old weather beaten bits by

Emory, (the smaller fragment) which is from the original stock upon which Torrey made the species. The other bit was collected in Arizona by Doct. Hayes.

Your other specimen, "B. Texana" S. W. is a troublesome chap. You quote several numbers, and I have a large set of other collections, all of which are evidently the same. Several years ago, I sent all the forms I had to Munro, who agreed with me in regarding them as all belonging to a variable species Bouteloua juncifolia (Eutriana Kth.). I sent a bit, collected by ~~Sch~~ Schott, of one of the specimens which M. regarded as the true juncifolia. Possibly B. bromoides may not be distinct. In some specimens the spikes are more or less erect, in some they are strongly refracted, giving a very different aspect to the plant. Munro notes a great difference in the leaves, which are sometimes very rough on the edges.

O

A Council of War - to be held -
Present - A. Gray & S. Watson - ⊖
represented by letter - He wants
to know you know:

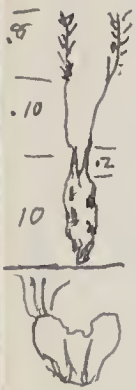
Brizopyrum. Link. Benthum.
Flor. Austral. 7-p.637. gives for this
genus Distichlis. Rafn. Jour. Phys.
LXXXIX, 104.
I have not access to the Journal but sup-
pose it ante-dates Link. Hort. Berol.
By Benthum's reference it appears
that the name is adopted by E.
Desvaux in Fl. Chil.
But - Benthum states: "The original
character given by Rafinesque would
have been quite insufficient for identi-
fication were it not for the specific
synonyms he quotes" -
? Should Raffie's name be adopted -
Vote!

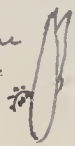
But -
Watson in his MS. Index (Hence be
the same for the help it has been) has
a memo. opposite to Brizopyrum "Older
name Demazeria, See Seem Journ. Bot.
3. 156" - which I cant see.
Now if we drop Brizop - has not this
Demazeria (whatever that may be) the
preference? - Will not somebody
tell me what is the proper name to
give to old Poa Michauxii ??

Over -

Bromopsis Douglasii, Hook & Arn.

Has any one studied this? It certainly is not congeneric with the other - sure! Hook & Arn apparently had only the male plant, for they blink at the other altogether - Had they examined the "innards" they would not have put it with Bromopsis. That has an elongated bifid ovary - very irregular and "wobbly" - mostly elongated styles not drawn long enough - 2 pits 100ths of inch opposite - The upper palet folds over to make a sort of tube at top through which the styles protrude - The scales are more or less 2 lobed, about 3/100 in. long and sometimes with 1 - several long hairs from the top - On the other hand B. Douglasii has an shiny ovary - not pinched - very long stipitate, with short styles plumose to the very base with occasionally branched hairs longest below - not expected from top but low down - The scales are so more or less - This cant go with Poa





the judicious - Hook & Arn say that old Nees "considers it a Poa", and he was more considerate than they - The palet has very few long almost webby hairs that would do for Poa, did not the strong distinct point to low palets be bad for Poa - Has any one thrown any light on this grass? - Does the assembled wisdom relegate it to Poa? If not - what? -

P. S. The failure of Orange Judd was a great misfortune to me in more ways than one. He knew how hard I had worked for the paper for over 20 years, and gave me to understand that I was to consider myself provided for for life. That is all changed by his going out of the management of affairs.

His failure found me with indebtedness to him, and notes, for a larger amount (which he had always cared for) coming due at bank. One bank commenced legal proceedings against me. As this was my first experience of this kind, I hardly knew what to do, and in my trouble - needing the counsel of a business man, I went to an old friend, Mr England, the publisher of the N. Y. Sun, for advice. To my great surprise and relief, he took the matter in hand, told me to give myself no concern, as he would go to the bank and stop all proceedings. The next

time I saw him, I learned that he had compromised with banks (there were two notes at different banks), for less than half the face of the notes, and had raised among his friends and mine, a sum sufficient to release me from all obligation to the banks. I knew nothing of this until it had been done. I do not now know who were the friends who so kindly and opportunely came to my aid, save yourself and Sargent and one or two others. It is right that I should say that I did not suggest the application to you, nor did I know of it until it was all over. Knowing that you took part in the matter, I can not refrain from expressing my grateful thanks. To leave before you the prospect of an utter breaking up at the hands of the sheriff, is something which I trust may never occur to you. If it does, I trust you may experience the relief which you and others brought to me. Then you will also know what it is to feel more grateful than you can well express.

G

one cause and another, have failed. Now the question comes up - What day must I close - Has anything happened that allows any change in your determination to have all in, or June 1st whether or no? -
Tell me what, and I can conform. All the well-known Poas are ready - I can put in what is known of the doubtful ones and leave it there - So with Atropis - or, if allowed, can try to make them clearer - Tell me the last day and how I shall know what to do -
- Oh Poa Kingii - why did you not see that it had already been called Poa glumaris and see to many other names? - But no time to discuss species - when do you want the ~~[illegible]~~ - all thing? Tell me & I'll do it - Some how or other how I am

assure Truly

George Thurber

Otto

The ship-ment of Gymnogrammitis sent a few days ago, is equally and identically G. Californicum, Bol.